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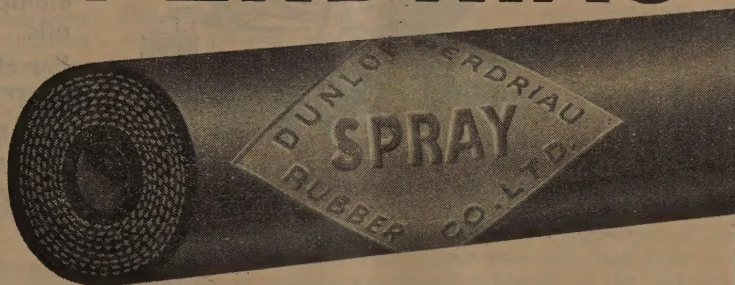
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Federal Government's Grant of £125,000

Limited to "Necessitous" Cases.
Much Confusion Created.

AT THE RECENT Sydney meeting of the Australian Apple and Pear Export Council, news was received with satisfaction that the Commonwealth Government would make a grant of £125,000 to growers of Apples and Pears who suffered losses in the 1933 export season.

A short Act was duly prepared: this passed the House of Representatives. In the Senate, however, a clause was inserted making the money available only to "necessitous" growers.

Who are "necessitous" growers, and who will share in the grant? How long will it be before the money becomes available? These are the questions which are being asked, together with an expression of regret that the Apple and Pear Export Council was not consulted in this matter.

The amounts set out as payable in the several States are as follows:—N.S.W., £8,225; Victoria, £36,321; Queensland, £478; South Australia, £5,258; Western Australia, £10,918; Tasmania, £63,800.

The vital clause in the Commonwealth Act reads thus:—

Any money granted to a State under this Act shall be so granted upon condition that it is applied by the State for the benefit and assistance of necessitous fruitgrowers who satisfy an authority nominated in that behalf by the State that they have suffered losses in the export from Australia of Apples or Pears grown by them during the 1932-33 season.

The several State Governments will pass Acts in order to distribute the Federal Grant, setting up the appropriate "authority" for administration.

This subject was discussed at great length at the December meeting of the Tasmanian State Fruit Advisory Board. Many suggestions were made, but the difficulty was to overcome the word "necessitous." Col. Blacklow telegraphed: "Necessitous cases suggest not having paid income tax as qualifying for assistance."

Despite suggestions that the grant be distributed only to consignment growers, a resolution was finally carried that the allocation of the grant be made to growers on the basis of all fruit shipped overseas, including f.o.b. and guaranteed price shipments.

At a special meeting of the Executive of the Victorian Fruit Marketing Association similar difficulties were experienced. Here again the word "necessitous" was the stumbling block. How long would it take to find out of a grower were necessitous? A man may be necessitous for reasons other than losses on fruit export, including sickness or horse racing.

A special committee interviewed the Minister for Agriculture, who promised immediately the Act went through the State House the appropriate authority would be set up in order to make the money available as speedily as possible. He felt sure that this authority would use the word "necessitous" in a practical way.

The fact is, of course, the grant has been made to the States on a per case basis on last season's exports. Any other method than that of distributing the grant than on a per case basis will be found extremely difficult.

The history of the negotiations leading up to the grant are worth noting. The Apple and Pear Export Council, through its Executive officers, was in constant touch with the Federal Government. It was proposed that the Government should remit some of the heavy burdens of taxation imposed on shipping companies in order to make a reduction of freight possible. The sum of £125,000 was suggested, say, 5d. per case. It was thought that this, in conjunction with limitation of export and better regulation of shipments, would assist materially in the rehabilitation of the Apple and Pear export business.

In the meantime, great pressure was brought to bear on the Government, especially from Tasmania, to secure some immediate relief from the pressing burdens on growers occasioned by export losses in previous consecutive seasons.

In fact, when the first word of the grant of £125,000 became known, it was thought that this would apply in the nature of a freight reduction for the 1934 season. Then, as information filtered through, it was seen the grant would apply to last season. Then at the very last, while the Bill was before the Senate, the unfortunate word "necessitous" was included, which has upset the whole of the negotiations which have been steadily proceeding over many months past.

If the grant could be made swiftly available as originally intended, it would be of very material service to the industry, and the Commonwealth. It is known that some growers have not been able to attend to spraying and proper cultural treatment owing to export losses and the drying up of credits.

It is certain that practically every grower who exported last season is as regards his export fruit "necessitous," and the simplest procedure would be for the State Government to distribute the money accordingly.

Speedy distribution is essential if the money is to accomplish the desired purpose. All information regarding growers' accounts could be promptly obtained through their shipping agents. If forms have to be sent to growers for them to fill in and for affidavits to be taken, precious weeks will slip by. If there be any preference such could be shown in the more speedy distribution of the money to growers whose losses were heaviest (this information is quickly available), followed by the distribution of the grant to all other exporters.

All grower exporters are "necessitous" as regards last season's export. The more they shipped the greater the loss. The only distinction is that some are more "necessitous" than others.

AS CIDER PRODUCTION on an increased scale is under consideration, the Research Committee of the Victorian Fruit Marketing Association proposes to import Cider varieties from England and France as a standardised, high quality Cider is desirable. England has 140,000 acres under Apples (production 10,000,000 bushels), a good proportion being of Cider varieties. France's acreage is 735,000 under Apples (production 50,000,000 bushels), Cider varieties predominating.

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TRAVEL INTERSTATE BY SEA

Practical Hints on Fruitgrowing from Readers.

IN ANSWER to many requests, the "Fruit World" has opened up a section of the paper for the publication of practical hints from readers.

A commencement has been made with these interesting hints on this page. We have also included answers to correspondents. The co-operation of readers is invited. Practical hints and "wrinkles" of any sort would be appreciated. Information is invited regarding the behaviour of varieties, pruning, cool storage, cultivation, implements, home-made devices, and the thousand and one items that go to make up the daily lot of the grower.

In the answers to correspondents, readers may hold differing views; an expression of such views is invited.

Secretaries of Fruitgrowers' Societies in any part of Australia are invited to send in reports for publication.

The editor would welcome letters from readers on any subject for the betterment of the industry.

PRUNING DELICIOUS APPLE TREES.

"Reader," Gippsland, states his Delicious Apple trees are running into wood, and not fruiting. Can you suggest a remedy?

Answer.—At winter pruning time, leave the horizontal lateral growths untouched and remove any strong growing vertical growths. By growing on the horizontal laterals the sap is checked, thus assisting in fruit production; further, more sunlight gets to the buds. These hints apply particularly to young trees six to ten years old. Once the Delicious can be brought into the fruiting stage the weight of the fruit tends to keep the laterals in a more horizontal position, and this is the ideal to be achieved.

CODLIN MOTH CONTROL.

"Drouin" writes: Would appreciate practical experiences for this district regarding the time to spray for Codlin. Is the calyx spray necessary?

Answer.—Experiences of some growers in Gippsland show that the calyx spray is not necessary owing to the fact that in the cooler sections the moth is not on the wing then. The time to spray is when the moths are on the wing. A useful method to discover the time for spraying is to notice the activity of the moths in packing sheds. All means of egress in these packing sheds should be closed before October; when the moths emerge they will fly to windows. These windows should be of glass, and tightly closed for the time being. The usual result is two-fold.

(1) All the moths which have emerged in the packing houses can be killed.

(2) The grower has an accurate knowledge that the moths are on the wing, and this is the time to commence spraying.

THE STARLING PROBLEM.

Further to the useful hints in the December "Fruit World," I would state that we have achieved success in dealing with the starling as follows: Obtain a "stick" of phosphorus from a chemist. Dissolve in boiling water, and add flour and sugar to make a stiff dough. Take an Apple which has been pecked, or make a hole to appear as if pecked. In the cavity place a small portion of the phosphoric dough, and put the treated Apple on the ground near where the starlings are most in evidence. Starlings will go for a pecked Apple rather than a whole

one. Soon the poison gets to work; the other birds quickly notice that trouble is brewing, and clear off. We have found this method very successful without exterminating the species. Care must be taken to keep children and domestic animals from reaching the poisoned fruit. Being farmers, as well as orchardists, we do not desire to do away with the starling, as he is a useful insectivorous bird, but he is a nuisance when fruit is about. The poisoning method will usually clear starlings out of an orchard.

Be careful of the fumes when preparing the phosphorus, else you will get a headache. Suet may be used instead of fruit as a means of conveying the phosphorus to the birds. If using suet, remember the possible danger to cats and dogs.—"Gippsland."

PRUNING YATES TREES.

"Secateur," Beaconsfield, writes: I would be glad to have the advice of "Fruit World" readers as regards the pruning of Yates Apples.

Answer (by G. McDonald, Drouin).—The Yates is a spur bearing variety. Experience has shown that the best Yates are produced on the laterals. In pruning these laterals cut to the second bud—from four to six inches from the parent lateral. It will be noted that the first bud is at the junction of these two laterals. Remove this junction bud, allowing the second bud to develop. The reason is, that if cutting away the lateral, and thus removing the second bud, the fruit which develops from the junction bud is usually very small.

The Arsenical Residue Problem.—Growers in several Victorian districts are suggesting the conducting of tests to demonstrate the efficacy of summer white oil as a spray against codlin after Christmas. The difficulty about the washing of the fruit is the insufficiency of water in many districts.

Realising the difficulties in washing the fruit to remove spray residue—apart from the cost—practical hints would be welcomed by which the problem of arsenical residue can be most effectively dealt with.

PLANTING PINEAPPLES.

"A. R.," Tweed Heads, N.S.W., writes: Kindly publish some hints regarding the planting of Pineapples.

Answer (by N.S.W. Dept. of Agriculture).—There are two popular methods of planting—single rows and double rows. In the single-row method the plants are placed 18 to 24 inches apart, with 7 to 9 feet between the rows. With the double-row method the plants are placed 18 to 20 inches apart with the two rows 20 to 22 inches apart. The plants in the two rows are not placed opposite each other, but staggered, i.e., with those in one row midway between those in the other. The distance between double-row and double-row is 7 to 9 feet.

The young plants may be set 2 to 3 inches deep, according to size, and may be dropped along the rows by one man, while another follows and plants, first making a hole with a small hand shovel or a dibble. After planting, the soil should be pressed firmly around the young plants with the foot. Care should be taken when planting to prevent the soil entering the crown or heart leaves of the plant, as this will prevent progress and growth of the plant.

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but—the Codlin Moth robbed many an orchardist of his profits until Arsenate of Lead was found to give protection from this worst of robbers. The Orchardist who uses "Aero" brand Arsenate of Lead gets the maximum protection for his fruit crop, and, in consequence, bigger and more profitable returns from Codlin-free fruit. "Aero" brand Arsenate of Lead has such a high arsenical content that it ensures the fullest protection against Codlin, yet its soluble arsenic content is so low that it will not burn or scald the foliage. "Aero" brand is indeed a superlative quality product, and is no dearer than inferior arsenates.



Keep down your losses through Codlin by spraying your apples and pears with "Aero" brand Arsenate of Lead.

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297 Murray Street, Perth.

Thinning Yates' Apples. — "South Australia" asks for the experiences of growers of Yates' Apples.

Ans. (by G. McDonald, Drouin, Vic.): As small Yates are not wanted on the market, growers should take particular care with thinning of this variety. Bunches on the end of the laterals should be thinned to one, and all other bunches to two. Care should be taken to remove those Apples affected with Black Spot or otherwise imperfect. Any Apples found affected with Codlin Moth should be kept in a separate container, and destroyed each evening.

Remember, Yates should be pruned, thinned and manured well.

Export of Jonathans.—Varying opinions are heard regarding the most suitable sizes of Jonathan Apples for export. All appear agreed that the Australian Apple and Pear Export Council was correct in excluding the 3-inch Jonathan. Some growers believe the 2-inch to be too small, other people think even the 2½-inch is too large.

Some contracts from England specify that only 10 per cent. of 2½-inch Jons. be included. However, there appears to be a good market in Glasgow for 2½-inch. Jons. This market likes the larger sized fruit.

EMPIRE FRUIT PRODUCTION.

Important Conference at London in March.

An important Conference of British Empire fruit representatives will meet at London in March next. This is one of the outcomes of the Ottawa Conference, when an Empire Fruit Producers' Federation was mooted. Delegates will meet in London from all parts of the Empire. The items already listed for the Agenda Paper are as follows:—(1) The production and distribution of Empire fruit, including the relation between Empire production and the United Kingdom market. (2) The organised development of fruit growing, drying and canning within the Empire. (3) Co-operative inter-Dominion and Empire advertising. (4) Cold storage. (5) Transportation. (6) Standardisation of package. (7) The constitution of an Empire Fruit Federation.

CIDER APPLES.

Big Production in England and France.

It is not generally known that little old England has 14,000 acres under Apples, the average production being around 10,000,000 bushels.

France has 735,000 acres under Apples, the production being 50,000,000 bushels annually. The great proportion of these varieties is for the making of cider.

CIDER PRESS AND CRUSHER; — Complete, in perfect order, by T. M. Robinson and Co., of Spotswood. Price £8—Geo. F. Hill, Spring Park, Warragul.

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Horses for Orchard Work

(Plow, single or double).

Motor Spray Pump always on hand. Good references.

G. T. KNEE, E. Doncaster.

CODLIN MOTH CONTROL.

(The Editor, "Fruit World.")

Dear Sir,—

I wish to express to you my appreciation of the splendid article on codlin control, as published in your November issue, written by Mr. R. T. Pescott, Government Entomologist, quite the most valuable article on this subject I have ever read, it would pay every orchardist to take the "Fruit World"—if they only get one article like this, a year.

It is to be hoped Mr. Pescott's article will be a death blow to the washing machine, for the removal of residue arsenate of lead from Apples. Quite apart from the cost of machine and cost of labor, washing Apples cannot be done by the ordinary orchard hand without injury and loss of appearance to the fruit. I wash all Apples before passing them for cider.

To cut out all arsenate of lead after the middle of December, and replace with white oil is a simple solution of this very serious difficulty, for which we growers have to thank Mr. Pescott.

Codlin Moth in Private Gardens.

There is another matter in connection with codlin control that I would like to bring under the notice of those interested, through the columns of your valued paper; it is with reference to the control of codlin in the private gardens: up to the present spraying has been almost—if not quite—the only means of control at the service of the Government Orchard Supervisors. Every orchardist knows that control of these cottage gardens has never been efficient, and it never can be, so long as spraying is relied upon to destroy the codlin; many of these non-commercially grown trees are of great size, and would require the services of a good motor pump to spray them, and again, people are loath to have such deadly poison as arsenate of lead, about their homes.

Now that chemically prepared codlin bands have proved so effective, I would suggest that their use be made compulsory, where no spraying is done, on all Apple and Pear trees, in place of the spraying. The bands could be stocked by any store and are cheap and harmless.

The first brood would escape, but the later grubs would be caught, and it is these later broods that cause such serious loss and compel us growers to spray right up to February.

The Government Orchard Supervisors cannot be blamed for the present unsatisfactory state of affairs; the present regulations are unworkable for several reasons, but I cannot see a single difficulty in the use of codlin bands; a date should be fixed when the bands must be on, and they should remain on until May 1.

I would be glad if you could find space to publish my idea, just to test the feelings of other growers.

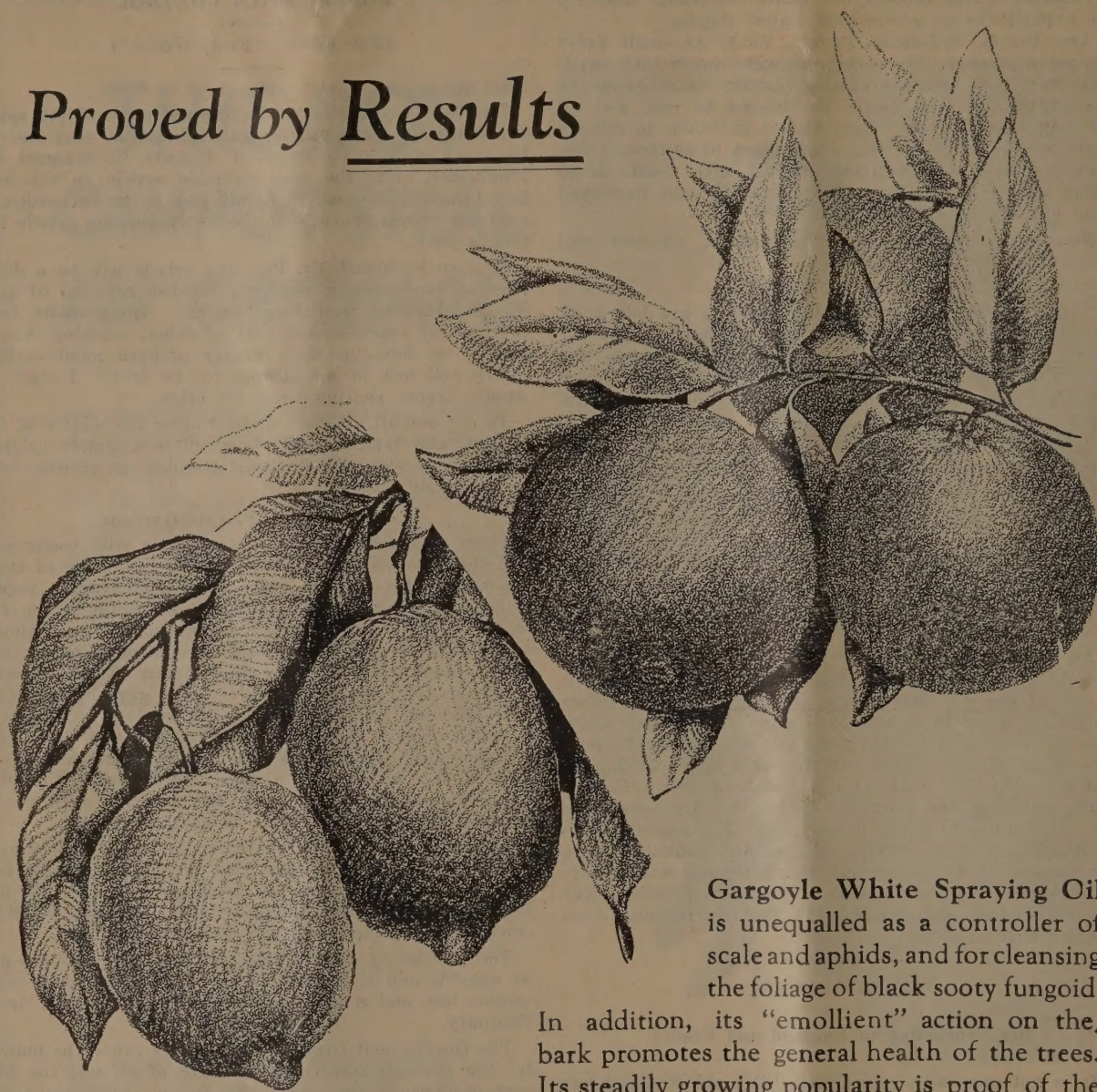
GEO. F. HILL.

Warragal, Vic., 29/11/33.

Tasmanian fruitgrowers are urging the State Government to provide a loan of £137,000 to fruitgrowers, in addition to the £63,000 provided by the Commonwealth Government, to finance operations connected with the 1934 crop.

Heavy rains in Victoria during December caused much damage to Apricot and Peach crops. Brown rot was very prevalent.

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Gargoyle White Spraying Oil is unequalled as a controller of scale and aphids, and for cleansing the foliage of black sooty fungoid

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M37

Editorial Chats



CANNED FRUITS.

Problems of the Export Trade.

TOWARDS THE END of the year considerable criticism was levelled at the Canned Fruits Export Control Board for its policy of holding out in U.K. for prices which the British trade would not pay, especially in view of the heavy "carry over" of stocks.

On the other hand, while admitting that the Control Board has made "one or two" errors, the Northern Victoria Fruitgrowers' Association has affirmed its belief in the desirability of the continued existence of the Board, and this view is shared by the Chairman of the Shepparton Cannery, Mr. A. W. Fairley (a member of the Control Board) who has recently returned from England.

An opposite view is taken by the private enterprise growers, who strongly object as taxpayers to inflation of their industry under Governmental auspices, and then for freedom of contract to be denied in handling their produce.

Several fruit canners point out that the Control Board as at present constituted is not sufficiently responsive to the rapidly changing situations in relation to canned fruit sales in U.K. They point out that when the Americans made a cut in prices the immediate answer should have been a lowering of the Australian prices in order to meet the competition and to clear Australian stocks. Thus, while Australia was holding out for a higher price the Californians were steadily filling up British shops with their canned goods and now Australia is left lamenting. The prestige of the Australian Canned Fruits Control Board has been lowered.

Australian fruit canners state that it is possible to appoint a suitable practical man on the spot in London to keep in touch with the changing sale situation from day to day.

* * * * *

The problems confronting the canned fruit industry are not easy of solution, especially in view of the heavy production of canning fruits from settlements fostered by the Government. The production is now far beyond Australia's consumptive powers, thus bringing the necessity for very substantial exports abroad, particularly the United Kingdom. California will not readily yield to Australia a market which she has steadily built up over many years. The hoped-for big developments in the export trade in canned fruits to "the East" have not materialised.

This year Australian growers are again faced with a lean time because of the canneries decision to process only half of the Peach crop at low prices.

One well-known fruitgrower in the Goulburn Valley sums up the position by stating that the problem of over-production will settle itself, i.e., by the growers ceasing to produce these excess quantities of fruit.

The figures recently published showing losses on ex-soldier areas, and closer settlement schemes are disquieting to the general taxpayer.

As the matter stands to-day, the position can only be viewed sympathetically with the certain knowledge that economic conditions must operate sooner or later.

The cynic will say, "look at the sugar industry—producing huge quantities of sugar for export abroad while sugar for local consumption is held up at an artificially high price." Some day the long-suffering public may revolt. History has a habit of repeating itself.

PERSONAL.

Congratulations to Mr. M. J. Canny, on his appointment as Railway Commissioner in place of Mr. Molomby who has reached the retiring age. Mr. Canny is 51 years of age and has steadily risen in the Railway's service because of his outstanding ability.

Mr. S. P. McColl, an officer of the Department of Agriculture, left at the end of December, for London to join the staff of the Agent General. Mr. McColl has been connected with the fruit and statistical work of the Department of Agriculture for many years past. It is his intention to inspect ships arriving in British ports with cargoes of fruit, and to prepare reports on the condition of the fruit on arrival.

Mr. S. P. Grounds, representing the British Empire Producers' Organisation, visited Australia during November and December. This organisation has already been of great service to Empire producers. Now that the Australian Apple and Pear Export Council has affiliated there will be more direct contact, and increased activity on behalf of Australian producers is certain.

A VISIT TO NEW ZEALAND.

Experiences of Mr. C. L. Nobelius.

Mr. C. L. Nobelius, of the firm of C. A. Nobelius and Son Pty. Ltd., Gembrook Nurseries, Emerald, visited New Zealand during November, where he inspected nurseries and orchards.

Regarding his visit to the Cherry Orchards of Mr. W. A. Tate, Greytown, Mr. Nobelius, writes, "In this orchard, which is very up to date, were the largest Cherry trees I have seen, carrying a 70 per cent. crop; besides Cherries Mr. Tate grows Apples and Pears, some of these varieties had a heavy crop, and looked very well; the orchard is very modern, having its own cool store, case-making, and packing shed, and spray pipes laid on throughout the orchard. A considerable sum is spent annually on ammunition, etc., to keep the birds off the fruit.

"From here I passed through Wellington, Christchurch, on to Dunedin, and visited the fruit-growing district of Roxburgh, where are grown Apricots, Cherries, Apples and Plums, on the high ground the trees were carrying medium crops, while on the flats there was no fruit at all, it being wiped out with a late frost.

OBITUARY.

Death of Sir John Robert Gibson.

In the death of Sir Robert Gibson, Chairman of the Commonwealth Bank, Australia loses a noted citizen, one who devoted his life to the service of the nation.

Mr. G. R. Laffer, of Belair, S. Australia, passed away in mid-December. The late Mr. Laffer was a well-known fruitgrower and an active worker for the betterment of the industry. As a member of Parliament for many years his services were readily available on behalf of the fruit industry.

Australian Apple and Pear Export.

Final Forecast for 1934 for U.K. and Continent.

IN FULFILMENT of the policy laid down by the Australian Apple and Pear Export Council at its annual conference in Sydney recently, the figures are given hereunder, showing the fruit forecast for the coming export season.

The list of varieties and sizes of Apples which may be exported in 1934 was published in our last issue. The only alteration is the correction showing that Cox's Orange Pippin and Adam's Pearmain can be shipped from 2 in. to 2½ in. No "plain" grade Apples can be exported during the coming season. There are no restrictions as regards Pears other than the Commonwealth grading regulations.

The export figures are as follows:—

Apples.—Cases ("Con." means the Continent of Europe).

February.—To U.K.—Tas. 150,000, Vic. 80,000, W.A. 12,000, S.A. 20,000, N.S.W. 40,000, Qld. 22,000. Total, 324,000.

March.—Tas. (U.K.) 910,000, (Con.) 275,000; Vic. (U.K.) 225,000, (Con.) 175,000; W.A. (U.K.) 130,000, (Con.) 237,000; S.A. (U.K.) 106,000, (Con.) 146,000; N.S.W. (U.K.) 60,000; Qld. (U.K.) 15,000. Total to U.K. 1,446,000, to Continent 833,000.

April.—Tas. (U.K.) 840,000, (Con.) 125,000; Vic. (U.K.) 130,000, (Con.) 120,000; W.A. (U.K.) 82,000, (Con.) 85,000; S.A. (U.K.) 110,000, (Con.) 99,000; N.S.W. (U.K.) 20,000. Total to U.K. 1,182,000, to Continent 429,000.

May.—Tas. (U.K.) 450,000; Vic. (U.K.) 50,000; W.A. (U.K.) 47,000, (Con.) 2,000; S.A. (U.K.) 40,000. Total to U.K. 587,000, to Con. 2,000.

June.—W.A. (U.K.) 5,000.

Pears.—Cases:—

February.—To U.K., Vic. 18,000, W.A. 8,500, S.A. 8,000. Total, 34,500.

March.—Tas. (U.K.) 65,000; Vic. (U.K.) 108,000, (Con.) 5,000; W.A. (U.K.) 21,700; S.A. (U.K.) 21,500, (Con.)

2,500; N.S.W. (U.K.) 20,000. Total to U.K. 236,000, to Continent 7,500.

April.—Tas. (U.K.) 35,000; Vic. (U.K.) 111,000, (Con.) 5,000; W.A. (U.K.) 8,800; S.A. (U.K.) 5,000; N.S.W. (U.K.) 20,000. Total to U.K. 179,800, to Continent 5,000.

May.—Vic. 28,000.

Summary.

Apple and Pear export to U.K. and Continent: Forecast for 1934:—

	Apples.	Pears.	Total.
Tas.	2,750,000	100,000	2,850,000
Vic.	780,000	275,000	1,055,000
W.A.	600,000	39,000	639,000
S.A.	521,000	37,000	558,000
N.S.W.	120,000	40,000	160,000
Qld.	37,000	—	37,000
Totals	4,808,000	491,000	5,299,000

APPLE AND PEAR EXPORT.

A New Zealander's Views.

Australia's Oranges Criticised.

The need for co-operation between New Zealand and Australia, as regards fruit export is emphasised in a letter from Mr. F. G. Duncan, Sunnyvale Orchard Co. Ltd., Dunedin. Mr. Duncan states that the New Zealand grades are higher than the Australian grades, and urges that the lower grades from Australia be cut out. This matter is in the hands of the growers themselves to remedy.

[Australia has eliminated "plain" grade in 1934.—Ed. "F.W."]

Faulty Citrus Fruit from South Australia.

Continuing, this correspondent states that he paid 26/- for a case of Oranges, and 48 Oranges were bad. The fruit was scabby; in fact, there were only four Oranges in the case which had not marked skins. No Association could build up a reputation with fruit like this; it should never have left the packing house.

[The correspondent describes the label, giving the name of the Association and the grower's number.—Ed., "F.W."]



The Herald Apple Gift Committee, which recently met at the Commonwealth offices to discuss plans for shipping Apples to England. They were congratulated by the Minister for Commerce (Mr. Stewart) on the progress made. From left (sitting): Mr. A. S. Harrison, the Secretary for the Department of Commerce (Mr. E. J. Mulvaney), the Minister for Commerce, the Chairman of the Australian Apple and Pear Export Council (Mr. J. B. Mills), Mr. C. Parnham, the Superintendent for Horticulture (Mr. J. M. Ward). Standing: Messrs. J. P. Hogan, J. W. Barker and F. Cave.

Prevention of Damage by Frost.

SOME PRACTICAL EXPERIMENTS in orchard heating have recently been made on Mr. W. Eagle's property at Harcourt. The Shell Company sponsored these experiments by providing sufficient equipment to heat two acres of orchard, together with the necessary fuel oil.

A useful feature was the alarm system installed in the orchard. This consisted of a thermometer placed out in the open, and connected electrically to a bell in the house, in such a way that the bell would ring when the temperature in the orchard dropped to 34 deg. F. This was remarkably efficacious, as Mr. Eagle was thus able to retire at night secure in the knowledge that he would receive ample warning of the approach of frost.

The most representative trial was made on 24-25th August, when the alarm bell rang at 2.30 a.m. Fifty heaters were lit in about one acre of Apple trees, and in 45 minutes the temperature in that area had risen to approximately 37 deg. F., as against 28 deg. F. in the remainder of the orchard—a rise of 9 deg., directly attributable to the use of the heaters. The heaters were run for four hours, and consumed about one-half gallon of fuel oil per heater per hour.

Fuel oil can be landed in Harcourt at about 7d. per gallon, and on this basis the expense of protecting an acre of orchard against damage by frost would be:—

50 heaters at 4/- each, £10

Estimated life five years—Cost per year .. £2 0 0

Fuel oil consumed in an average season, say two late spring frosts—heaters running for four hours per night—200 gals. at 7d. per gal. £5 17 0

TOTAL per Acre per annum £7 17 0

It should be noted that these costs relate to the heating of one acre of orchard, whereas experiments in other countries have proved that a substantial reduction may be effected when a larger area is heated.

Many orchardists in the Harcourt district know from bitter experience the damage that may be caused by frost, and the general feeling is that orchard heating has come to stay, and that the expense entailed is an inexpensive form of insurance against the destruction of crops.

BROADCASTING.

Broadcast talks of interest to fruitgrowers and gardeners will be delivered by officers of the Victorian Department of Agriculture as follows:—

January 16—The 1934 Fruit Export Season, by J. M. Ward, Superintendent of Horticulture; January, 30—Various Methods of Preserving Tomatoes, by Miss A. Knight, fruit preserving expert; February 6, The Removal of Spray Markings from Apples and Pears, by A. G. Strickland, M. Ag. Sc., Horticultural Research Officer.

These talks will be delivered from 3AR from 6.15 to 6.30 p.m.

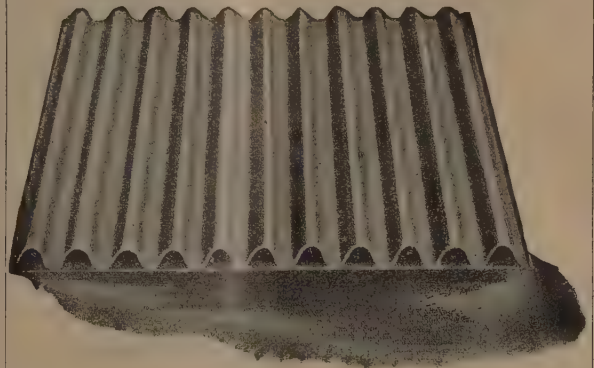
A special talk, by Mr. J. L. Provan, on The Sporting Behaviour of Fruit Trees, has been arranged for Friday, January 26, at 7.45 p.m., from 3AR.

We have received from the Tasmanian Farmers', Stock-owners' and Orchardists' Association, their annual for 1933, which contains annual reports, list of office-bearers and interesting information. The Secretary is Mr. A. J. Honey, Bursary House, Elizabeth-street, Hobart, Tas.

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Re-Working Full-Bearing Apple Trees.

By P. H. Thomas, Chief Horticulturist, and T. D. Raphael, M.A., Dip. Hort. (Cantab.), Horticulturist, Tas. Dept. of Agric.

(Reproduced by Courtesy from the Tasmanian Journal of Agriculture.)

Graft Unions.

TO-DAY THE APPLE INDUSTRY is under review. Many growers have realised that certain varieties cannot be produced under existing conditions without a high percentage of wastage from disease or other causes, and that the commercial future of such varieties is problematical. In some orchards the proportion of late or early kinds planted is too large. With some varieties storage and carrying properties are poor, or local conditions may have proved unsuitable for a particular variety. The general result is that there is scarcely an area of Apple orchard in which the process of variety conversion is not being carried out under one or other of the different methods.

During recent years investigations in re-working have been carried on with two main objectives, viz:—

- (1) The adoption of a method by which the risks of fungus infection are minimised;
- (2) Elimination or reduction of the unfruitful period necessitated by the old methods of re-working, whereby full bearing trees were deheaded and practically rebuilt with the new variety.

In Tasmania, the prevalence of fungus infection by the wound parasite, *Polystictus versicolor* (fig. I.) on trees re-worked under the old methods has almost precluded their continuance, and fruitgrowers are generally substituting a system known as "re-furnishing."

Re-furnishing, as the name implies, constitutes the complete equipment of the tree with fruiting growths of the new variety. The main limbs are only slightly reduced in length, but are shorn of all laterals and fruit spurs, leaving only a bare skeleton framework to receive the new scions. This method avoids the large wounds which provide entry for fungal organisms and which are so difficult to occlude without the formation of a large area of dead wood tissue.

In its initial stages, the *P. versicolor* fungus, when occurring on Apple trees, appears to be saprophytic, and the dead areas resulting from the use of such grafts as the "rind" and "strap" on old trees forms a convenient medium for introducing the disease, which subsequently becomes parasitic, and attacks the living tissue.

Re-furnishing is now carried out in a number of different ways, involving the processes of whip or tongue grafting, side grafting, budding and plug. Rind and strap grafts are seldom employed except for the tips of shortened main branches and on longer lateral growths which it has been found necessary to reduce.

It is the purpose of this article briefly to describe these methods, showing the results obtained on trees that have been treated, and more particularly to examine the union effected between the tree and scion. An examination of the photographs taken from actual grafts will reveal a number of interesting features which exercise an influence in this respect.



Fig. I.—Rind Grafts affected by *P. Versicolor*.

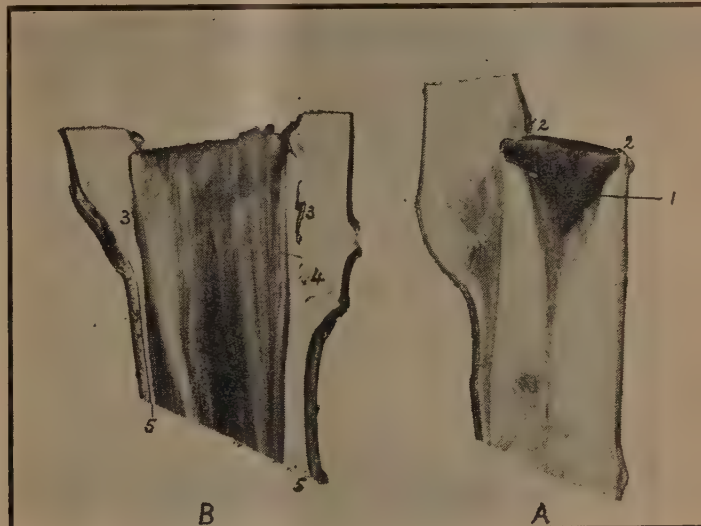


Fig. II.—Rind Graft—Longitudinal Sections.

- A—Successful union. 1—Normal area of dead wood following branch removal. The limits of the discoloured area are usually checked by gum plugging of the tracheal tubes. 2—Bark healing over.
- B—Successful union followed by attack of *P. Versicolor*. 3 and 4—Cavities due to imperfect cutting and fitting of scion on stock. 5—Narrow layer of healthy tissue which has not yet been invaded by the fungus.



Fig. IV.—Tongue Graft inserted on Lateral Growth.

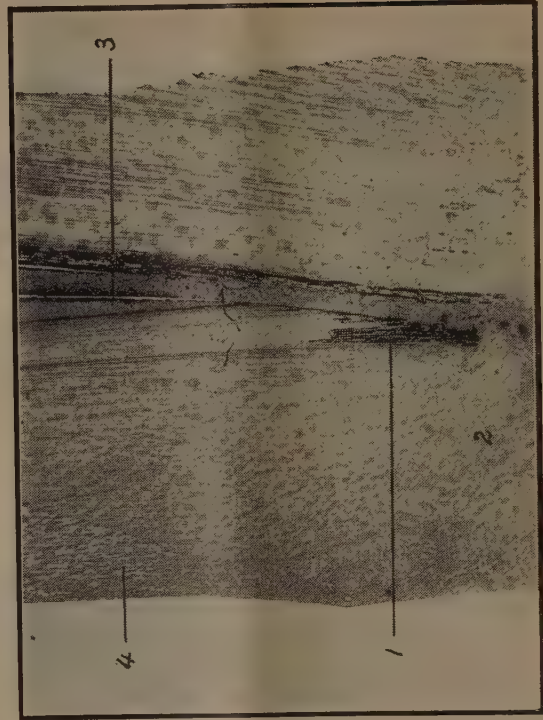


Fig. VI.—Tongue Graft—Longitudinal Sections X10.

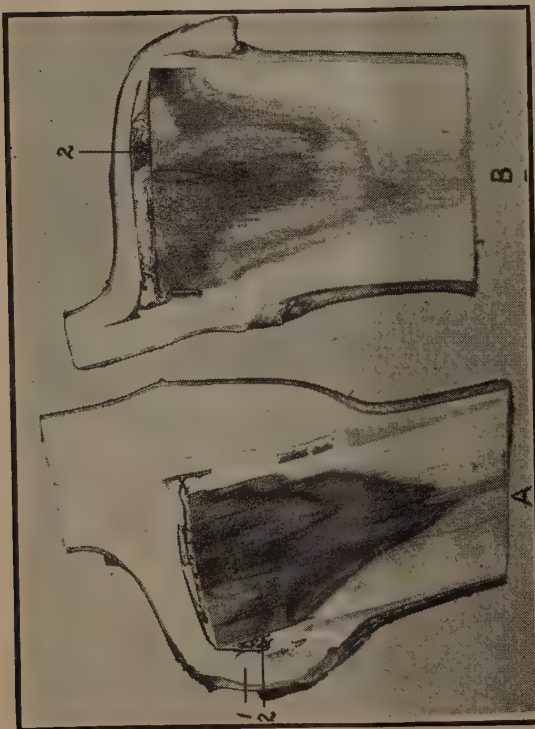


Fig. III.—Strap Graft—Longitudinal Sections. A and B—Successful Unions. 1—Satisfactory fusion of "Strap" with Stock. 2—Damage to Strap by Woolly Aphis.

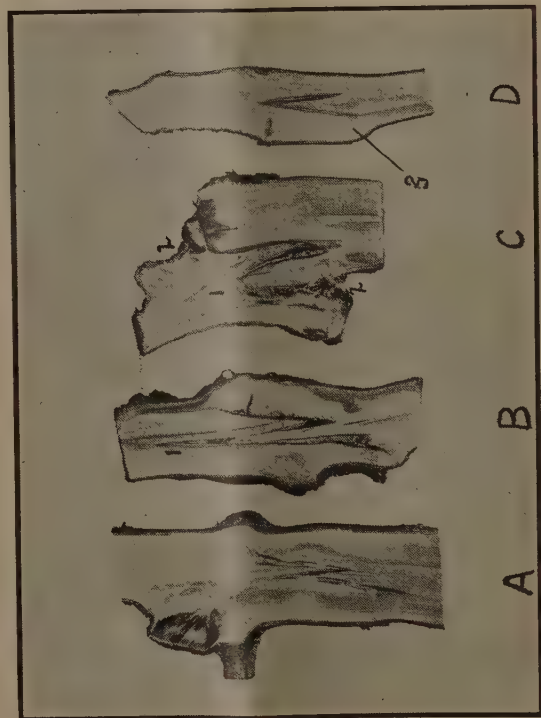


Fig. V.—Tongue Graft—Longitudinal Sections.

Whip or Tongue Grafting.

This is the oldest system of re-furnishing practised. Many varieties with strongly developed young laterals can be converted by means of this graft without any previous treatment except deheading. The scions are fixed by the tongue method (Fig. IV.) to the limb terminals and suitably placed laterals. Surplus growths of the old variety are cut out after union has taken place.

Although involving a year's delay, excellent results are obtained by stripping the old variety and by tongue grafting into a selected number of the young lateral shoots produced. This enables a union to be formed closer to the main branch, and results in greater security. There is also more freedom from the later development of unwanted side shoots from the main limb.

Fig. V. shows a number of longitudinal sections of tongue grafts which have been obtained from trees partially re-furnished by this method and illustrates the results of good and bad workmanship.

D and A are two good tongue graft unions in their first and second year respectively. It is rarely possible to obtain a closer union, owing to bruising of the woody tissue, which takes place when making the tongue. B and C illustrate extreme instances of such bruising, the operator having split the scion fairly deeply when making the tongue (1). Excessive callous generally occurs under such conditions, satisfactory occlusion is retarded, and the grafts are rendered more subject to attacks by woolly aphids (2). It will be seen that in B and C the union is much weaker than in A and D, the scions are ill fitted to stand any strain, and fracture may result if they are called upon to bear normal weight of fruit.

Fig. VI. is a microphotograph of specimen D (Fig. V.) taken at the point marked (3); the enlargement brings out a number of interesting features.

The original scion tip is clearly evident, and shows what happened when it was brought into contact with the tree lateral. The tracheal tubes (water conducting vessels) have become plugged with gum (1), where it rested on the lateral. The wood of the original variety is sharply defined (3), no fusion occurring in the pith; in fact, se-



Fig. VIII.—Plug Graft—Longitudinal Sections.

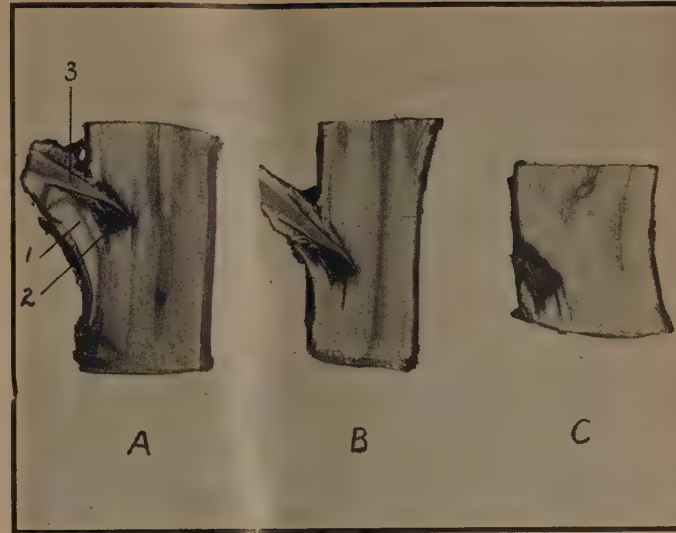


Fig. VII.—Plug Graft inserted in Main Limb.

paration has taken place after sectioning. An area of abnormal tissue may be seen near the union (2); this, however gradually becomes less confused near the outside of the section (4), where normal conducting vessels may be observed.

Plug Grafting.

This system of re-furnishing is of comparatively recent development, and must at present be regarded as in the experimental stage. The method of operation is simple: The tree is stripped and deheaded, and wedge-pointed scions of the new variety are inserted by driving them into incisions made by a similar shaped chisel at convenient points on the main limbs (Fig. VII.). The grafts are then sealed and waterproofed by means of thick crude petroleum jelly, grafting wax or bitumen emulsion. No tying is required, the graft being held firmly in position by the wood pressure.

Although this appears a very convenient and quick method of variety conversion, the results obtained where it has been adopted have not proved satisfactory. With few exceptions, the percentage of misses has been unduly high (generally 50 per cent.), and the wounds caused by the operation make ideal areas for fungus infection.

The longitudinal sections in Fig. VIII. reveal the weakness of the union. Specimen A might be classed as successful. The original wedge-shaped scion is visible (3); the main union and development of new tissue has formed below the graft (1) with practically no callous above. Note the area of dead tissue (2) occurring where chisel has been driven into the wood.

B is an example of a type of union sufficient to produce initial leaf growth in the scion, but unlikely to survive the dry summer months. When failures result under this method, wounds such as depicted (C) are left on the limb of the tree. These form a possible means of entry for *P. versicolor* and other wood-rotting fungi; in several specimens examined a fungus was already present in the dark area of dead tissue.

Side Grafting.

The side graft has been extensively used during recent years in the re-furnishing process, and where the neces-

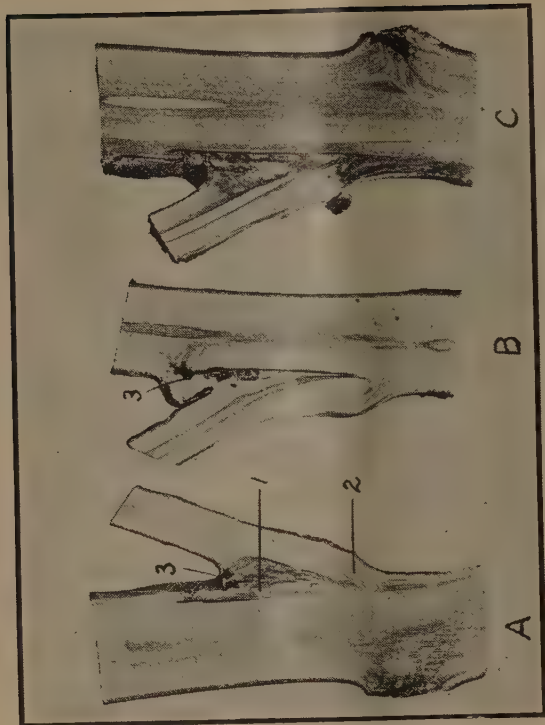


Fig. X.—Side Graft—Longitudinal Sections.

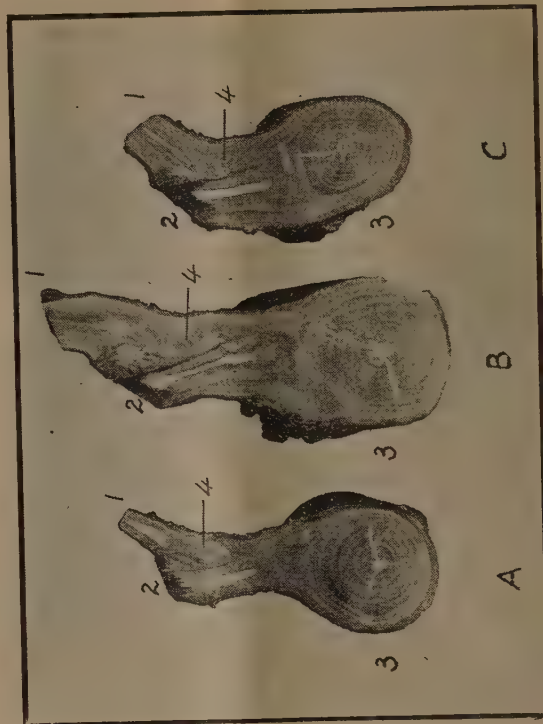


Fig. XII.—Bud—Longitudinal Sections.



Fig. IX.—Side Graft inserted on Main Limb.



Fig. XI.—Bud inserted on Lateral Growth.

sary care and attention has been exercised the "take" has been satisfactory.

The scions are inserted in the main limbs after stripping and deheading, by the following process:—An inverted L-shaped incision is made in the bark at a slight angle to the axis of the limb. The corner is raised and the prepared scion pushed under the bark in a similar manner to that used for the rind graft. A small piece may be cut from the back of the scion to give a wedge-shaped end. In order to keep the graft in position, a fine tack is driven through the enveloping bark and the scion (Fig. IX.). Waterproofing is effected by sealing with petroleum jelly, warm grafting wax, or bitumen emulsion.

Specimen side grafts are shown in Fig. X. A is an example of a good union. Although in the photograph a dark area is showing at (1), this is owing to the calloused tissue becoming discolored. The union is satisfactory. Note the development at (2), where a fairly strong union is evident and new water-conducting tissue has formed. B is a good graft with vigorous scion growth, but has been slightly affected by woolly aphis. It is evident that unless attention is paid to the fitting and care of the scion, weak union may result as at (3). Fracture may occur when downward strain on the resultant limb is experienced.

Budding.

Trees are prepared for this method of re-furnishing by deheading and stripping. The resultant new growths are then thinned out and buds inserted in those retained. (Fig. XI.).

One of the disabilities of the budding system is the possibility of aphis infestation when converting susceptible varieties. Experience has shown that nicotine sprays will

control the pest, and if applied in time no serious injury to the buds will result.

Fig. XII. illustrates the union effected by this method. A is a successful "bud take" of one season's growth; B and C have completed their second year. The growth from the bud of the new variety is clearly defined (1). All the unions illustrated are very satisfactory (4), and, except for the small shallow areas (2) where the original budded shoot was headed back, no dead areas are present. The occlusion of this area by bark may be clearly seen in C. The general set of the scions from the main limb (3) can be seen, and, coupled with the strong fusion, the resultant branch should be able to bear a substantial crop without fracture.

The foregoing notes are compiled with the object of supplying additional information in regard to the different re-furnishing practices. Grafting is often referred to as tree surgery, and it should always be remembered that the same necessity prevails for clean incision and careful amputation, whether the subject belongs to the animal or vegetable kingdom. After re-furnishing a tree by any of the methods described, the grower must pay particular attention to the suppression of adventitious growths from the original limbs and to the control of woolly aphis. It is only by careful attention to these points that success is ensured.

NEW REGISTRATIONS.

Spry's Appura Co. Pty. Ltd., soft drink manufacturers. Formed to acquire the plant for manufacturing pure Apple juice and jellies. The plant is now under option to W. Spry, E. Hetherton, R. W. Caples, C. Funge and J. Funge. Capital, £5,000.

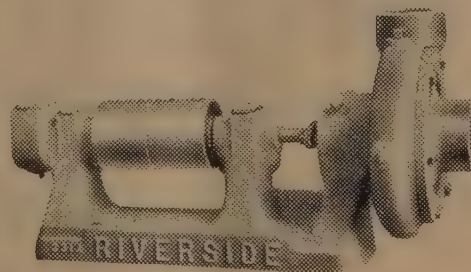
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Australian and New Zealand Fruit Crop Prospects.

Victoria.

THE APPLE CROP in Victoria is estimated by the Supt. of Horticulture at 2½ million bushels, of which there will be around 750,000 to 800,000 available for export. Last year the Apple crop was 3,217,074 bushels, export 1,447,633 bushels. The record production was in 1928—3,712,350 bushels, of which 927,615 cases were exported.

Pears.—Anticipated crop, 800,000 to 900,000 cases, export 250,000 cases. Last season the production was 1,172,204 cases, export 411,156 cases.

Peaches.—Production equal to last year is expected, viz., 1,351,330 cases.

The Apricot crop is expected to reach 400,000 cases, compared with 303,730 in 1933: Plums are heavier, berry fruits good. Vine and citrus fruits heavy.

Viticulture.

At Rutherglen there seems to be a very good setting of fruit on most vine sorts. In the irrigation areas, Sultanas did not sprout so many bunches as last season, but the set of fruit seems satisfactory.

Generally speaking, the vines are healthy and free from disease, though the Light Brown Apple Moth (*Tortrix*) is more prevalent than usual. Many growers are wisely incorporating lead arsenate with other sprays to control this insect, which threatens to become a serious vine pest.

Citrus.

November weather in the Citrus districts was favorable to a good set of Citrus fruits, but it is too early to forecast yields at this stage.

The young fruit is developing normally, and if the mild conditions continue there should not be a very heavy December "drop." Crop estimates will be postponed until after this "drop" is completed.

Valencia Late Oranges are being harvested in larger quantities, and the quality is very fine.

As the Department intends to vigorously continue the campaign against Red Scale this season, growers are advised to make early arrangements for control measures.

Harcourt, 16/12/33.—The weather here for December has been abnormal, something over 7 inches of rain having been registered. Growers have been searching anxiously—though not wanting to find the object of their quest—black spot. So far, very little is showing, and as precautionary measures had been taken earlier in the season, it may not develop although weather conditions have been ideal for its growth.

Our water problems—the life blood of Harcourt fruit-growing—are not at present troubling us. In scanning the State Rivers' Commission's report for last season we find that our water system is not on the dole, but is more than paying its way. Harcourt growers during the season paid a water rate of £650, and sale of water amounted to £1,275, which shows a credit over interest and working expenses of about £400, which is satisfactory.

The crop prospects are fairly good when one takes into consideration the enormous crop produced last season. Apples will perhaps yield 25 per cent., and Pears 50 to 60 per cent. of last year's crop. Stone fruit will also be a fair crop. The quantity of Apples and Pears available for export is uncertain, because some varieties having

been cut out and other popular export varieties not bearing. Harcourt grows a tremendous crop of Dunns in a favorable season. This is an Apple, however, that cannot be persuaded to yield two heavy crops in succession, hence the paucity this season.

The Old Rymer

is the victim of that scientific mode of changing over, viz., plug grafting,—hundreds of big trees having been worked over during the past winter by different growers.

The committee appointed to consider the control of export Apples and Pears continues to work optimistically, but with perhaps a little bit of the keen edge taken off their enthusiasm by the revelations of the experiences of some of the canned fruit growers, who have been under the board relating to their industry. These men ought to know, and do know, what they are talking about. They have exposed the fallacy through the press that the control board is a superhuman body of men with unlimited omniscience and power, and very tersely wind up by saying, "It is time the board was abolished."

The local cool store has closed down for the season after a successful run on electricity. The fruit, as a whole, kept well, with the exception of some Jonathan scald. The store experienced a very busy season right from the pre-cooling of Pears for export till closing down, thousands of cases above its capacity of 80,000 having been put through the store and out again.—E. Pritchard.

Red Hill District.—The main fruits grown are Apples (Jonathan, Rome Beauty, Five Crown, Statesman, Reinette and Yates).

Jonathans, good crop, though some light patches; Romes, fair; Five Crown, Statesman and Reinette, light; other varieties, fair.

Generally speaking, a fair crop, with some very heavy Jonathans. Red Hill shipped about 75,000 cases last year.

It is very difficult to estimate shipments this year.

Strawberries—a good crop, but low prices have hit growers very hard; and the same would apply to vegetables, now fairly extensively grown.—G. W. Brown, Airedale Orchard, Merricks N.

FRUIT TREES

ONE GROWER SAYS—

"The trees (750) arrived in excellent order and are of exceptional quality. Our local inspector said they were the best trees he had seen. You will get my order, about same number, for next year."

QUALITY.

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Quantong, 16/12/33.—Fruit crops on Quantong are generally fair. Apples and Pears, full crop. Peaches and Plums, medium. Late Peaches, light. Tomatoes, much damaged by heavy rains a week or two ago.—C. H. Jost.

Pakenham Upper.—The Apple crop in this district is looking well, on the whole, the fruit is clean, good size and color. Jonathans are rather patchy, ranging from light to heavy, Yates medium to heavy, Rokewoods medium to heavy, Delicious, Granny Smith, Romes, light to medium.

The quantity suitable for export will probably be 85 per cent. of last year's total.—W. H. Carne.

Ardmona (25/12/33).—Mr. V. R. McNab, Ardmona, writes under date December 26:—The recurring rains have been of great advantage to the young trees planted last winter, but on the other hand have developed brown rot on the Peaches on the older trees. This will clean up when the hot dry winds arrive in January, but before Pear picking commences.

Fruit Crops.—Apricots, medium crop (50 to 60 per cent.). Early dessert Peach, heavy crop; mid-season canning Peaches, medium crop (five to ten years); late canning Peaches (Pullar, Thiele, Healesville), medium on older trees, average about 75 per cent. crop.

Pears.—Heavy crop, clean and well grown. The season suited the Pear trees admirably. Packham's and Williams Pears will be early this year; 2in. fruit is now plentiful (December 25).

Marketing Prospects.—The local cannery is willing to take about half of the fruit offered to it at prices which will leave the growers no profits. £7 a ton for Pears and Peaches; £8 for Apricots. The growers having huge quantities above the canneries quota, have never faced a worse season.

N.S.W. Fruit Crop Reports.

THE APPLE CROP in N.S.W. for 1934 is forecast by the Marketing Bureau of the N.S.W. Department of Agriculture at 1,114,000 bushels as compared with 1,953,000 bushels in 1933, and Pears at 430,000 in 1934, as compared with 507,000 bushels in 1933.

Individual varieties are forecast as follows for 1934 (000 omitted):—G.S. 414, Jon. 239, Rome 66, L.P. 57, Tasma 46, McIntosh 45, Grav. 44, Del. 36, Pomme 18, Cleo. 16, Carrington 16, K.D. 15, Buncombe 6, Dunns 5, Yates 5, Commerce 2, Mobbs Royal 1, miscellaneous 83. Total 1,114,000 bushels.

Pears (000 omitted), W.B.C. 170, Packhams 101, W. Cole 48, B.B. 33, B. de Cap. 13, W.N. 10, Howells 10, Jos. 10, China 4, Kieffer 3, miscellaneous 28. Total 430,000 bushels.

These refer to yields from all quarters without regard as to the quantity to be marketed, and not allowing for storms or adverse circumstances.

District reports.—Albury (— Apples), G.S. and McIntosh shed heavily. Pears light.

Armidale-Inverell.—G.S. and Jon., fairly good. Tasma patchy, Del. fair. Pears variable: Williams and Packhams fair to good others light. Hail in Kentucky district reduced crop by 25 per cent.: hail damaged crop around Uralla; wet season hampered spraying; K.D., Dunns, and R.B. light; G.S., Jon., Tasma and McIntosh good. Pears about 50 per cent. of normal.

Batlow.—G.S. light to medium, Del. and Tasma light, Yates good. Pears—W. Cole fair to good, Packhams good,

B.B. heavy around Tumbarumba, W.B.C. good, W. Cole failure.

Bathurst, Blue Mountains, etc.—Apple crops light, average 35 per cent. of normal. Pears about 50 per cent. crop. At Lyndhurst G.S., Jon. and R.B. light; Pears light; at Mudgee crops fair, G.S. and Grav. good; at Moorilda-Newbridge, fair crops of L.P., Jon., Grav. and Wolseley. At Little Hartley, G.S. heavy on young trees, light on old trees; R.B. poor, Jon. fair. Crops of Apples and Pears light at Ilford, Rydal, Perthville and Yetholme.

Camden-Moss Vale, crops of Apples and Pears light. At Penrose, Jon. light, McIntosh, L.P. and Tasma fair, G.S., Grav. and Del. light to fair. At Tallong crops very light. Around Mittagong K.D. and Jon. light, G.S. and Grav. patchy: hail damage at Parkesbourne. At Moss Vale half crop; G.S., Del., Grav., McIntosh, Cleo. and St. P. fair, L.P. failure. At Lakeland, very light. In Oakdale district McIntosh patchy, G.S. light. At The Oaks, G.S. and McIntosh medium, Jon. and Carrington light. At Camden, Grav. and Mobbs Royal fair. Around Wedderburn light to medium.

Goulburn.—Apple crops light, G.S., Grav., and Jon. fair, Del. very light. Pears about 30 per cent. crop.

Orange.—Apple crops fair, G.S. patchy. Pears light, Williams carrying most fruit. Around Molong, Jon. and G.S. fair. At Stuart Town P.D.N. heavy, Jon. medium, G.S. light, Grav. medium. Pears, W.B.C. fair, Packhams light.

Young.—Apples and Pears fair to light. At Monteagle, G.S. and Jon. medium, others fair. Around Kingsvale crops light, At Holmwood (Cowra), Dunns suffered from frost. R.B. light, others good.

Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area.—At Griffith and Yenda, Apples and Pears medium. At Leeton G.S. patchy, Cleo. medium, red varieties generally light. Williams Pears fair.

Coastal.—At Parramatta, Apple crops light. Around Kurrajong generally light, but Grav. good. G.S. and Jon. medium. At Windsor-Richmond, most varieties fair to good. In Kenthurst-Glenorie district Carringtons, Mobbs Royal and Lord Nelson light; Allsopps and Trivett heavy. At Hawkesbury River, Allsopps and Carringtons good, Around Gosford Apples light.

Lavington, near Albury, 10/12/33.—Crop Prospects:—

Peaches: During the last few years the "Lavington" Peaches have had almost a complete monopoly of the Sydney Christmas market. The result has been that of all classes of fruit grown in the district, "Christmas" Peaches easily come first in trees planted and average returns. As regards varieties, Briggs have given way to Highs Early Canada. Hales come next with a fair number of the extra early varieties, New Discovery and Mayflower. Later varieties almost neglected. The crops about the best yet seen here.

Apples: Almost confined to G. Smith and Jonathans. With very few exceptions, crops almost a total failure owing to overload last year and the dry season. Few odd nondescript varieties show fair crops. Black spot, which showed up very badly last year for the first time in the history of fruitgrowing here, seems to be almost stamped out,—Bordeaux at spurburst and followed by lime sulphur with arsenate of lead spray being control adopted.

Pears: Varieties mainly W.B.C. and Packhams. Crops as with Apples, generally very poor.

Grapes: Table varieties mainly, the main being Waltham X., with a sprinkling of Muscats. Crops so far promise

to be excellent, although the continued rain of the last week or two is causing a good deal of concern, the chance of downy mildew breaking out being the danger.

Prunes: Varieties, D'Agen easily first, with Robes and Sugar next. Crops, as with Apples and Pears, very poor.—J. Buchhorn.

Uralla, 27/11/33.—The main fruits grown are Cherries (Margarets and Florence with a few early Lyons), Apples (Granny Smiths, Jonathan, Delicious and Rome Beauty), Pears (Williams, Packhams, Winter Cole, and Nelis, also a few Beurre Bosc).

Apples and Pears are very light, and I would say about 40 per cent. compared with last season. Owing to the wet season, there is an abundance of fungus disease, such as curly leaf of Peaches, shot hole of Apricots and Cherries, black spot and powdery mildew of the Apple trees, and brown rot is beginning to show up in the Cherries.

Old hands say there hasn't been a season like the present for over sixty years, while others say it is identical with the season twenty-three years ago.—A. A. Wilkinson.

Western Australia.

Fruit Crop Estimates.

THE Superintendent of Horticulture (Mr. G. W. Wickens), after visiting W.A. orchard centres, gives the following estimate of 1934 crops as compared with those of 1933.

Season 1932-33.		Season 1933-34.	
Actual.		Estimated.	
	Bushels.		Bushels.
Apples	804,048	Apples	800,000
Pears	121,574	Pears	90,000
Apricots	55,437	Apricots	65,000
Peaches	56,479	Peaches	60,000
Plums	72,696	Plums	50,000

Apple orchards bloomed freely, but the expected bumper crop did not eventuate because of thrips, lack of

bees, frost and unusually cold winds and rain during October.

The absence of powdery mildew is favorably noted.

In the southern Apple district—Cranbrook, Mt. Barker, Albany, Denmark, where the Apple crop was comparatively light last season, a good setting has taken place and there will be a definitely good crop of all commercial varieties.

In the south-west, Bridgetown-Donnybrook area, the crop will be lighter than last season, but Dinninup is heavier, so is Capel, and taking 100 as a number representing a good crop, the yield of some of the main varieties over the whole district is estimated as follows:—Granny Smith 90 per cent., Cleopatras 75 per cent., Yates 60 per cent., Jonathans 50 to 60 per cent., Statesman, Dunns, Rokewood, 15 to 20 per cent., and Rome Beauty 5 per cent.

The Pear crop throughout the State is definitely lighter than last season, the only two varieties not coming within that category being Packham and Comice, and neither of these is largely planted.

The Mount Barker District.

The main fruits grown in the Mount Barker district are Apples and Pears, the principal Apples being Jons., Dunns, Cleos, Granny Smith, Yates and Romes. Pears: Josephine, W. Nelis, B. Bosc, B. Clairgeau, and Comice.

The crop prospects are only fair. A very heavy blossoming occurred, but owing to the exceptionally heavy rains experienced at blossoming time large quantities of the fruit fell, and even yet it is difficult to estimate crops, but it has every appearance of being only a half crop.

The trees generally showed good growth, and were in a fit condition to stand a heavy blossoming and crop. The trees blossomed to the fullest. Good seasonal rains fell through the winter months, and, while the trees were in full blossom, extraordinary heavy rains and fine hail fell, seemingly holding up the setting, and the fruit did not all materialise. The varieties mostly suffering were Cleos and Dunns. Yates also did not set in their customary heavy clusters, and did not warrant the usual thinning out. Granny Smith set fairly heavily, and these have been affected to a small degree with Loopers, owing to the intermittent rains and damp, warm weather since setting.—Alan C. Hickling, Secretary, Mt. Barker, Co-op.

Bridgetown.—Mr. F. E. S. Willmott advises good showing of Apples and Pears, probably three-quarter crop.

Mundaring.—Mr. T. H. Ilberry, writing at end November, reported re Apples: Cleos., fair to good; Dunns, light; Jon., good; G.S., fair to good; Doherty and Yates, fair.

Pears—Bartletts good, others medium to light. Peaches and Nectarines, good; Plums light.

On the whole, crops not so good as last season.

South Australia.

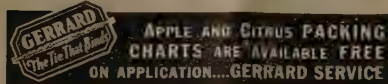
Balhannah (Dec. 20).—Mr. H. N. Wicks, fruitgrower and nurseryman, writes as follows:—This district suffered severely from frost, some orchards experiencing a complete clean-up, while others have lost portion of their crops. Pears seem to have survived and appear to be medium to heavy, while Plums in most cases are either completely wiped out or else are very light. The large



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proportion of damaged fruit in the Apple orchards will make picking for export extremely tedious, and at the same time is making it very difficult to estimate what proportion will be saleable.

Cider sales, despite cool weather, are very brisk. The nursery has an exceptionally fine stand of all commercial lines, and bookings for some lines are already brisk.

1933-34 Fruit Prospects—Tasmania.

Apple Crops Normal. Pears Generally Light.

PRELIMINARY fruit crop estimates for the 1933-34 season have now been compiled by the Department of Agriculture, and present indications point to slightly under a normal Apple crop, and a Pear crop ranging between 35 to 40 per cent. normal.

Although orchards blossomed well this season, and weather conditions were favorable throughout the greater part of the spring, two short cold snaps were responsible for a certain amount of damage to Pear varieties.

Unusually dry conditions from September onwards were reflected by the freedom of Apple trees from black spot. Pears, however, suffered during a spell of warm, humid weather shortly after petal fall. It is noteworthy that where Pears are sprayed at this stage spot is negligible.

Powdery mildew and spider are not particularly noticeable at the present time, though should the dry conditions persist, the latter pest is almost certain to increase.

Considerable damage resulted from late frosts in low-lying areas in the Derwent Valley during the first part of November, some varieties being completely denuded of fruit. Hail occurred in parts of the Huon, but a survey showed that the damage in affected areas was only light, and as the set was heavy, hail-marked fruit can be removed at thinning.

Taking the normal commercial crop as 4,000,000 bushels, it is anticipated that, with suitable weather conditions during the next few months, the commercial crop should approximate 3,800,000 bushels.

Apple Varieties:

Heavy crops are being carried at present by Alfriston, Cleopatra, Crofton, Jonathan and Sturmer in all districts. Average crops by Cox's Orange Pippin, Duke of Clarence, Scarlet and Tasman's Pride.

French Crab, Delicious and Dunns Seedling are rather patchy, whilst Democrat alone is light.

There is little to choose between the various Huon districts, but Glen Huon, which escaped the spring gales to a large extent, has a more even crop throughout. The Derwent Valley, which carried a good crop last season, is probably the lightest district.

Pear Varieties.

All Pear varieties this season vary from light to very light, owing both to the heavy crop last season and the cause already referred to.

Beurre Bosc and Williams are the only varieties showing more than a 75 per cent. crop. Beurre Clairgeau, Doyenne du Comice and Glou Morceau vary from 50 to 75 per cent.; the remaining varieties are mostly poor.

The commercial crop, it is estimated, will be in the vicinity of 140,000 bushels.

Stone Fruits.

Excellent weather was experienced throughout the blossoming period of all stone fruits, and average to good settings are reported from the main districts.

Apricots, for the third successive season, promise well,

and where thinning and cultivation have been carried out, satisfactorily, most areas have shown little drought injury. South Arm areas, however, have experienced a considerable drop in places, and a certain amount of injury from green beetle (*Dipucephala*) is evident.

With reasonable rains between now and the end of January an average crop of excellent quality should be harvested.

Plums, Peaches and Cherries are showing crops varying from 70 to 80 per cent. normal, Peaches being particularly good in most commercial areas. Recent rains have caused considerable splitting in Cherries, but arrived just in time for the Plums.

Quinces are very patchy, and will be somewhat below normal.

Berry Fruits.

Good weather favored a heavy set in Currants and Gooseberries, and recent rains arrived in time to check a considerable fall in the former fruit. Gooseberries are on the markets at present, and have produced some fine samples.

Raspberries and Loganberries bloomed heavily, and, with recent rains, should show a good average crop.

Early samples of Strawberries and those planted in early districts suffered severely from drought. Later areas, however, blossomed heavily, and should produce well.

This report is based entirely on present conditions, and, as will be fully realised, much depends on the weather conditions during the next few months. A revised estimate will be compiled at a later date.

Robigana, 10/12/33.—Tamar Cox's, Jonathans and Sturmers heavy; other Apples medium to good. Pears light.—H. A. Court.

Lenah Valley (Dec 18).—Mr. Merton Calvert, reports as follows:—

Generally speaking all varieties of Apples in this district are bearing heavily. Scarlets especially are being thinned. Democrats and Cleos. are to some extent thinning themselves. The recent rains were much appreciated, and the fruit is growing well, and appears to be very forward for the time of the year.

Pears are light to very light, and in some places black spot is already in evidence.

Should there be no setbacks in the shape of prolonged dry weather, etc., it is apparent that more space for fruit in February and March will be required than the figures already mentioned will give us.

The elimination of some varieties of Apples from export overseas is causing a considerable amount of criticism among growers—even so far as suggestions for compensation from the Federal Government. One outstanding grievance in connection with sizes permissible seems to be the French Crab. It is considered that this variety should be shipped down to 2½ inches.

New Zealand.

Auckland, 8/12/33.—Re Crop Prospects, etc., Auckland Province.—The main fruit varieties grown here are Apples, Pears, Peaches, Plums and Tomatoes, also some late varieties of outdoor Grapes and Hothouse Grapes, and large supplies of Lemons and Marmalade Oranges.

Crop prospects in this province are good, and there is a fair average crop showing. Of course, weather conditions between now and harvesting time will influence

the actual quantities which will be marketed. At present the conditions are ideal.

Probably it is not generally known in Australia that the Auckland Province can now supply the whole of New Zealand with Lemons, and within three or four years there will be a surplus over and above New Zealand's requirements.—B. Fremlin.

Hastings, 11/12/33. — Stone fruits will be somewhat lighter than last year, owing to parts of the district having suffered by late frosts. A part of the district did not suffer by frosts, and have a very heavy crop of all stone fruits, but in the aggregate the crop will be somewhat below last season.

Pip fruits will be heavier than last year, although in some parts of the district the frost has done material damage, but with the younger orchards coming into bearing, the total crop should be heavier than last year.

Stationary Spray Plants.

The piping system for spraying is being adopted to a greater extent year by year, and those who are using the system would not like to revert to the old portable outfit again. Another matter that is in most growers' minds is the

new colored Cox Orange Pippin

that is now being worked by a few growers, also the Red Delicious I wrote about last year.

Frost Damage in Otago.

Ettrick, Otago, N.Z., 25/11/33. — The main fruits grown in the Ettrick district are Apples and Pears, the

varieties mainly grown are Jonathan, Cleo., Newtown Pippin, Dunns, Delicious, Scarlet, Nonpareil, Stayman, Wine-sap, Cox's Orange, Ballarat, Seedling, and Sturmer, while in Pears the principal varieties are Winter Nelis, Winter Cole, P. Barry, W. Bon Chretien, D. D. Comice.

The crop prospects for the coming season are extremely poor, practically all the Apple and Pear crop being damaged by frost on the night of October 22; only a 10 per cent. crop will be harvested in this district; it is doubtful if any fruit will be exported this season, whereas last season, 162,252 cases of Apples and Pears were shipped from Otago, Ettrick being the largest export district in Otago.

Other fruits grown in this district are Peaches, Apricots, Plums and Nectarines; these fruits also suffered by the disastrous frost on the night of October 22; it is estimated that a 40 per cent. crop will be harvested from the Peaches, Plums and Nectarines, but it is doubtful if a 20 per cent. crop will be harvested from the Apricots.—James Cockburn.

The disastrous frosts which occurred during October in Central Otago, N.Z., are described in a letter just to hand from Mr. F. G. Duncan, Sunnyvale Orchard Co., Dunedin, N.Z. There will be no export from Otago this year.

When a deputation representing the Otago fruitgrowers waited on the Minister for Agriculture (Mr. C. E. Macmillan) requesting assistance, a sympathetic reply was received.

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ASSOCIATION MATTERS

Fruitgrowers' Federation of N.S.W.

A meeting of the Board of the N.S.W. Fruitgrowers' Federation was held at Sydney on November 30 and December 1, 1933. There were present: General J. Heane (in the chair), Messrs. T. A. Tester (Young), A. U. Tonking (Orange), V. C. Williams (Griffith), F. D. Inman (Leeton), A. E. Herring (Batlow), P. C. Best (Dural), F. B. Mackenzie (Kurrajong), R. Hill (Narara), S. C. Martyn (Armidale), A. J. Taylor (Singleton), H. G. Edgell (Bathurst), W. J. Black (Mangrove Mountain), L. T. Pearce (Market Representative), and E. E. Herrod (Secretary). Apology from Mr. H. L. Anthony.

Resignation was received from Mr. P. C. Best, owing to commencing in business as an agent in the markets. Decided to accept resignation and place on record thanks for services rendered. It was decided to call the District Council together to nominate a member to fill the vacancy.

Committees were appointed to deal with Metropolitan and Northern district matters.

Re Murray River Settlements: District affiliation accepted, with arrangement for representation on matters of special importance.

Fertiliser Bounty: Secretary reported the fertiliser bounty available only in respect to artificial manures used during the twelve months ending November 30, 1933. Decided to seek extension of bounty for a further twelve months.

City Markets: The City Council wrote stating that, as from December 1, the fruit markets will open all night for the reception of fruit, only on the understanding that carts bringing fruit into the market must leave the

market empty. The alteration in the hours of opening will now be from December 1, 1933, to March 31, 1934, when further consideration will be given.

Fruit Fly: Regarding the allocation of £500 from the Orchard Registration Fund towards the expenses of the special campaign, it was reported that the posters and pamphlets had been issued; specimens were exhibited.

Sulphate of Ammonia: The Central Coast District urged that efforts be made to secure a reduction in the price of sulphate of ammonia. The Secretary reported that the Federation and others had given evidence before the Tariff Board recently re duty: report not yet available. The Federation was in touch with the other States, and everything possible was being done.

Spraying Oils: Report was presented that the Royal Commission on petrol would include spraying oils. The Federal Attorney-General required the evidence proposed to be submitted, as the onus would be on the Federation to prove any statements made.

New Zealand Embargo: The President reported activities on behalf of the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area to export to New Zealand, and also to secure the right to export Cherries, Passionfruit and other fruits not affected by fruit fly. Mr. P. S. Macdermott had been sent to New Zealand.

Citrus Committee: Decided that the Citrus members of the Board be constituted a standing Citrus committee to meet the day prior to each Board meeting, and at other times as may be decided.

Marketing Fruit in Bags: The Board considered the practice of marketing fruit in bags undesirable, and not in the best interest of the industry, but as the present time was considered not opportune to press for an alteration, steps be taken to prohibit the practice in future seasons.

Mandarins: The President reported that the Federal Government had agreed to provide £10,000 to assist Mandarin growers, provided the State Government made available a similar sum; as the State Government had not finalised this matter it was decided to urge local Associations to press, through Members of Parliament, for a favorable decision — to compensate growers for the destruction of Mandarin trees.

Marketing Board: Decided to press for an amendment of the Marketing Act to provide for the constitution of boards with the necessary restrictive powers: further, that the State Government be asked to pass legislation giving the Federation power to enforce grading regulations re the marketing of all fresh fruit.

Apple Position: Decided to request the gazettal of new grading regulations for Apples, providing for the marketing of "special" and "standard" grades only for fresh fruit consumption during the coming season, thereby compelling the "plain" and "blemished" grades to be included with "factory" grade and only marketed for factory purposes.

Jam—Overseas Appeal: Decided to approve of the Overseas Jam Appeal launched by the Australian Marketing Corporation Ltd.



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New Plantings: The Board decided to issue a warning, through the press, against new plantings, in view of the over-production conditions now prevailing in the industry.

Decided to approve of Citrus grading regulations in conformity with those of Victoria and Queensland, providing for prohibition of the sale of Citrus fruits under two inches, with modifications for Lemons and provision for selling under "Factory" grade.

Tasmania.

A meeting of the Tasmanian State Fruit Advisory Board was held at Hobart on December 13. There were present Messrs. B. J. Pearsall (chairman), J. H. Askeff, Hon. W. H. Calvert, M.L.C., F. W. Harrison, A. Dickson, H. A. Court, F. M. Nicholl, O. J. Morrisby, P. H. Thomas, Dept. of Agriculture, and A. J. Honey (secretary). Apologies received from Messrs. J. P. Piggott and E. Ross.

It was decided to communicate with Lloyd's Insurance Office regarding a uniform policy of insurance on fruit for overseas export.

A report from the Agent General stated (inter alia) that as regards the 1933 fruit shipments, the extra care taken had proved beneficial, there being better air circulation in the holds.

In response to a deputation from the Municipal Association, the Chairman outlined the deliberations at the Australian Apple and Pear Council meeting. Delegates were unable to secure a reduction in freight, but had obtained the co-operation of the shipping companies in securing a better programme of ships and more refrigerated space during March and April. Mr. Court said representations had been made to obtain a "clear" field for Australian fruit on the British market during a stipulated period. The proposed insurance scheme had been referred back for further consideration.

Cr. Ryan stressed the importance of the insurance scheme to give an equalised return to growers, and a resolution was adopted favoring the formulation of the scheme for 1934 exports.

The delegates to the Sydney Conference were cordially thanked.

Limitation of Varieties.—A motion in favor of limitation of varieties not being enforced until trees had been reworked was defeated. It was decided to seek the in-

clusion of the re-working of fruit trees in the list of permanent improvements under the Aid to Primary Producers (Unemployment) Act.

Mr. I. H. Chopping was given permission to attend. He contended that French Crabs should be permitted to be shipped overseas from 2½ inches. Mr. Harrison moved that provision be made to allow prohibited Apples to be exported when it can be proved that satisfactory contract orders are received for such lines at a satisfactory f.o.b. price,—in such case, a certificate to be issued by the Department, allowing such orders to be filled. Hon. W. H. Calvert seconded. Messrs. M. Calvert and H. A. Court opposed the motion, which was lost.

Empire Producers' Organisation.—Both Mr. Court and Mr. Pearsall were nominated to attend the London Conference in March; the latter declined, however, and Mr. Court was unanimously approved for submission to the Apple and Pear Export Council.

Federal Grant for Growers.—There was a long discussion regarding the Federal grant of £63,000 for Apple and Pear growers, the inclusion of the word "necessitous" in the Act being regretted. It was decided to seek the disbursement of the grant on a per case basis for all Apples and Pears exported overseas in 1933.

The Tasmanian Selected Fruitgrowers Pty. Ltd., wrote requesting (a) that 5 per cent. of blemished fruit be the maximum in standard grade for Apples and Pears, (b) that fruit not complying with standard grade be prohibited from sale in Tasmania, except for factory uses. After discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

Inspectors and Fruit Consignments.—It was reported that certain fruit inspectors were acting as local representatives of Interstate commission agents. It was decided to request a discontinuance of this alleged practice.

Inspection of Fruit.—The Minister for Agriculture advised that he was enquiring into the possibility of the Government providing packing sheds for the repacking of rejected fruit: that as the standards for Interstate and overseas trade were identical, there was sufficient uniformity without interchange of inspectors.

It was resolved to ask the Minister to investigate the possibility of appointing additional travelling shed inspectors to assist in improving the packing of fruit for export.

Future Plantings.—A recommendation from the Tamar Farmers' and Fruitgrowers' Association, recommending no



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planting of new orchard areas for five years was deferred for further consideration.

Export Control.—The Tamar Farmers' and Fruit-growers' Association and the Huon Municipal Council wrote protesting against the attitude of the shipping representatives at the Australian Apple and Pear Export Council meeting, and requesting this be brought under the notice of the Minister for Commerce. On the motion of Messrs. Harrison and Pearsall, it was decided to give the Tamar Association and Huon Council details of the Sydney Conference; also, to discuss this and other matters with shipping agents.

Claims Investigator.—In response to a letter from the Apple and Pear Export Council, it was decided to approve of the appointment of a trained investigator in London to pursue claims.

Apple Gift Scheme.—The Executive of the Board was appointed a committee to push the "Herald" Apple Gift Scheme.

Office-bearers were elected.—Chairman, Mr. B. J. Pearsall; deputy chairman, Mr. J. H. Astell; Executive, Messrs. Pearsall, W. H. Calvert, M. Calvert, F. W. Harrison and E. Ross.

Votes of thanks were carried to the chairman (Mr. Pearsall) and deputy chairman, Mr. Astell, and the secretary, Mr. Honey.

PRESENTATION OF GOODWIN CUP.

Hon. W. H. Calvert, M.L.C., Congratulated.

THERE was a pleasing interlude at the December meeting of the Tasmanian State Fruit Advisory Board.

The Minister for Agriculture (Hon. F. E. Ward) attended, and in presenting Hon. W. H. Calvert, M.L.C., with the Goodwin Challenge Cup, won at the recent Imperial Fruit Show, expressed the best wishes and congratulations of the donors, the Government, members of the Board, and fruitgrowers generally.

Mr. C. E. Pratt (representing J. and H. Goodwin), and the Director of Agriculture added their congratulations.

Mr. Calvert, in responding on behalf of himself and his son, said their chief object in competing in the recent Imperial Fruit Show was to show the British consumer the best product which could be placed on the market. The Sturmer section had been won in the face of keen competition from Australia and New Zealand.

GERRARD WIRE TYING MACHINES CO. PTY. LTD. NOT INTERESTED IN SELLING FRUIT CASES.

We are requested by Gerrard Wire Tying Machines Co. Pty. Ltd., of Hawke-street, West Melbourne and branches, to state that this company is not in any way interested in nor concerned with the manufacture or distribution of boxes and box shooks.

The disclaimer is necessary because of an obvious misunderstanding that has occurred in the States where a box with a new type of box end is being offered for sale.

The name "Gerrard" is so well known to fruitgrowers and box users generally throughout Australia in association with the Gerrard Tying Machines that it is understandable why this company has been linked up in the minds of many with the selling of the box referred to, but there is no association of any kind.

Gerrard Wire Tying Machines Co. Pty. Limited is specialising in its own particular field of business within clearly defined limits, and in that field doing all possible to render satisfactory service to users of Gerrard Machines and Wire-Seal Strapping (Advt.)

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Presentation to J. McN. Martin and A. T. Brook.

Keen appreciation of the services of Messrs. J. McN. Martin and A. T. Brook was expressed at the recent Conference of the W.A. Fruitgrowers' Association, at Donnybrook. Each was presented with a silver coffee set, suitably engraved. The gifts were contributed to by members of fruitgrowers' associations throughout the State.

Before the presentations were made many speakers had a lot of complimentary things to say about these two stalwarts who have done so much for the industry.

The recipients gracefully responded.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN FRUIT MARKETING ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of Executive of the S.A.F.M.A. was held at Adelaide, on November 24, 1933.

There were present: Messrs. H. N. Wicks, M. G. Basey, J. S. Hammat, R. O. Knappstein, R. B. Pritchard, A. O. Peterson, J. B. Randell, H. J. Bishop, A. R. Willmore, G. W. Selth, R. W. MacDougall, M. Vickers, G. Quinn, P. R. B. Searcy, E. S. Mason, R. Hale, F. F. Redden, F. B. James, A. Filsell, and the Secretary. The President, Mr. H. J. Bishop, occupied the chair.

Correspondence.—Letters were received from Mr. J. P. Hogan, "The Herald," Melbourne, advising the formation in Victoria of a Committee to carry out an Apple Gift Scheme; from Clare Fruit Packers Ltd., tendering resignation as they were not now operating in fresh fruit. Decided to write suggesting holding their membership over in case they operate with fresh fruit in the future. Letter from Elder, Smith & Co., giving statistics of imports of fresh fruit and vegetables into Dutch East Indies and Straits Settlements; letter from Australian Marketing Corporation, giving particulars of Overseas Jam Gift Scheme.

Australian Apple and Pear Export Council Conference.—The Chairman read a report on the work at the recent conference in Sydney. Particular attention was directed to Mr. W. M. Carne's address, re cold storage experiments. It was resolved that copies of Mr. Carne's address should be obtained for distribution to members of the Committee, and that thanks should be expressed to Mr. Carne for the very useful information given. On the motion of Mr. Searcy, seconded by Mr. Selth, a very hearty vote of thanks was proposed to the delegates for their work at the conference on behalf of the Association.

Forecasts.—It was considered that there would be no difficulty in shipping the South Australian quota of Apples for the coming season, namely 520,000 cases.

Pears.—It was resolved to revise our estimates in regard to Pears, and make the figures:—

	Cases.
January (end)	10,000
February (first week)	10,000
March, 20,000 (two boats, each 10,000)	20,000
April	10,000
Total	50,000

It was also resolved that the Secretary write Mr. R. E. Boardman, and ask if he had any information in regard to the South African Pear crop.

Balhannah Cold Stores Ltd.—The chairman reported that Mr. Filsell had advised that the directors of the Balhannah Cold Stores had decided to link up with the Association as members.

Mr. Filsell pointed out that his company had experienced certain difficulties in the past in regard to obtaining levies from growers, who were not members of the Association, and he did not like the present rule making the shipper-members responsible for a levy of one farthing per case on fruit obtained from growers who were non-members.

Research Sub-Committee.—Mr. Wicks reported that three reports had been tabled from members carrying out codlin moth trapping experiments, and it was particularly interesting to notice that the moth was active very much earlier this year than usual. It had been decided to continue the tests with bandaging, and as a new bandage was available this year, the two different kinds would be tested out. He also advised that Mr. J. B. Randell had given the members of the Research Sub-Committee a very interesting report on the work done at the Australian Apple and Pear Export Council Conference in Sydney.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

AT the November meeting of the executive of the South Australian Fruitgrowers and Market Gardeners' Association there were present Messrs. F. C. Staniford (president), H. B. Robson, C. Ridley, R. B. Pritchard, G. Jennings, R. Cramond, W. J. Bishop, F. Hughes, C. H. Ragless, H. N. Wicks, L. J. Wicks, A. O. Petersen, J. B. Randell and L. G. Heading.

The Secretary reported having protested against suggested action of City Council to remove fruit barrows to less frequented streets. The Minister for Commerce wrote stating that efforts to secure the entry of South Australian berries into New Zealand were unsuccessful.

The subject of control legislation for dried tree fruits was discussed from different angles: it was decided to defer further consideration until next meeting.

Mr. C. F. Williams and Master Beresford Pitman were presented with handsome gold medals, won at the recent Royal Show for senior and junior Apple packing respectively.

SAVE YOUR CROPS

Save Waste by turning your
second grade fruit into profit

USE the

"Harvey" Tunnel Dehydrator

The Latest Idea in drying
Fruit, Vegetables and other
Products

Write for particulars—

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Implement Manufacturer

Box Hill, Melbourne,
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INTERSTATE REPRESENTATIVES:—

New South Wales.—Buzacott & Co. Ltd., 7/11 Market Street, Sydney.

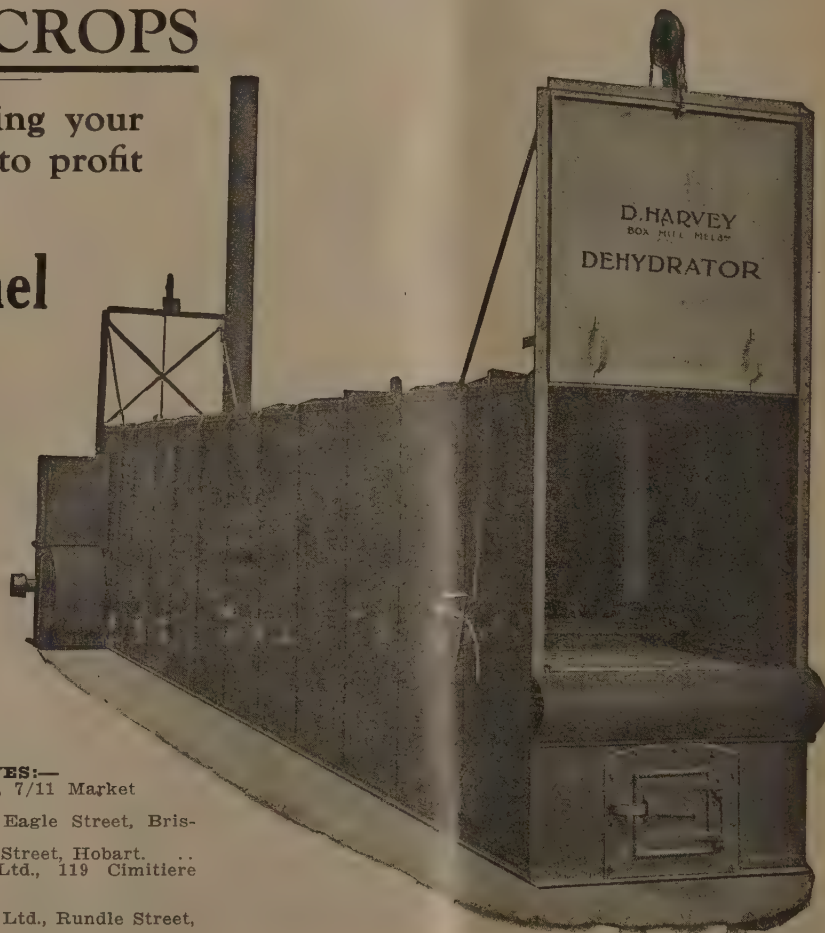
Queensland.—Clark and Fauset Ltd., 73 Eagle Street, Brisbane.

Tasmania.—Max Gieves Pty. Ltd., Davey Street, Hobart.
" Clements and Marshall Pty. Ltd., 119 Cimitiere Street, Launceston.

South Australia.—Harry Murray, Devonport.

Western Australia.—Silbert, Sharp & Bishop Ltd., Rundle Street, East, Adelaide.

Western Australia.—Skipper, Bailey Motor Co. Ltd., 431 Murray Street, Perth.



Mr. L. J. Wicks said the returns from the export of citrus to N.Z. were fairly satisfactory: freight and other charges were very heavy.

Tomato Price Fixing Unsatisfactory.

The Tomato section advised that price fixing methods in Melbourne and Adelaide were not so satisfactory as anticipated. Competition from W.A. also reduced prices.

The Cherry section reported that Cherry growers were adopting similar methods to celery and Tomato growers and Mr. C. W. McRostie was watching their interests in Melbourne.

Celery Growers.—The election of members of the Celery Growers' Committee will be held on January 20. The following retire by effluxion of time but are eligible for re-election:—Messrs. W. Farnham, C. Ridley, M. Packer, J. Mitchell and R. Martin. Those who were previously elected for two years are Messrs. L. J. Wicks, C. Gray, G. Strange, W. R. Clark and V. W. C. Schulze.

Marion.—Mr. C. E. Hawke, who recently visited N.S.W. and Victoria reported good Apple crop prospects in Victoria, fair to light in N.S.W. At Association meeting he gave valued cultural hints. Mr. K. L. Rainsford reported satisfactory Almond season. The "Almond Sales Service" was operating successfully.

The next meeting will be held on February 7.

Campbelltown.—Interesting reports were given at Association meeting, by Messrs. H. B. Robson, J. B. Randall, W. J. Kimber, L. J. Wicks. The next meeting will be held in February. At an enjoyable banquet, Mr. F. C. Stainford presided, the principal guests being Messrs. C. L. Abbott, M.P., and H. N. Wicks.

A Profitable Sideline

Good money is to be earned in the country by the snaring of water rats. Farmers and others living near rivers, swamps or large dams will have no trouble in seeing traces of these little animals, the skins of which are much sought after by manufacturing furriers to-day. They bring high prices right through the year. Water rats are easily snared by placing a sliding loop or slip-knot of very fine wire over the mouth of their burrow or on the run, which can be clearly seen in the grass and tussocks near the water. The snares may be set late in the afternoon and visited to take the catch in the early hours of the morning. The method of skinning and drying should be the same as that used when skinning a rabbit. This method is well known to all country people, and needs no further explanation.

Care should be taken to see that the skins are thoroughly dried before packing for transit or storing, otherwise they may arrive in a damaged condition.

Messrs. SLATTER & CO., of Nicholas Building, Swanston Street, Melbourne, will purchase these skins in any quantity, and pay top market price. On receipt of a parcel, they grade the pelts, and forward you a cheque by return of mail. This firm are also buyers of other skins, and will always be pleased to receive consignments of same from the country.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN FRUIT MARKETING ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of executive of the S.A.F.M.A. was held at Adelaide on December 15, 1933.

There were present: Messrs. H. J. Bishop (President), R. O. Knappstein, D. W. Hannaford, R. B. Pritchard, A. O. Peterson, J. B. Randall, F. F. Redden, G. Quinn, R. W. MacDougall, A. R. Willmsmore, M. Vickers, P. R. B. Searcy, T. Playford, E. S. Mason, W. W. Miller, and the Secretary. Apology from Mr. M. G. Basey.

It was decided to combine the Apple Gift Scheme with that for canned fruits and jam. Mr. G. W. Brown, of Victoria was nominated to represent the Australian Apple and Pear Export Council at Empire Producers' Conference, London. Mr. W. M. Carne (Council for Scientific and Industrial Research) advised that low temperature breakdown was not likely to occur to any important extent in South Australian Apples.

The Belhannah Cool Stores were received into membership: their cheque for £10/10/- was accepted in settlement of amount due for levies.

Regret was expressed at the death of Mr. G. R. Laffer, patron of the Association. The Secretary's action was confirmed in sending a wreath and letter of condolence to the relatives.

It was decided to place on the agenda of the next Australian Apple and Pear Export Council meeting: (1) the matter of statutory regulations to ensure pre-cooling of Pears; also (2) that Strawberry Pippin be included in list of export Apple varieties.

Pear Forecast.—Resolved to cancel January application. The February forecast of 8,000 to 10,000 was confirmed; also March, first half, 10,000 cases, second half, 10,000 cases; April, 10,000 cases.


Field Day.—The President reported that the Field Day at Mr. M. Vickers' property at Lenswood, had proved very successful, and the thanks of the Association were due to Mr. Vickers for kindly allowing the use of his property and making such excellent arrangements.

Research Sub-Committee.—Mr. J. B. Randall reported at the meeting of the Research Sub-Committee, forecasts were submitted by Messrs. R. O. Knappstein, R. B. Pritchard and M. G. Basey in reference to codlin moth control experiments, and it had also been decided to continue experiments with Vallo bands only for this season, as it was considered too late to obtain supplies from other sources.

Mr. Bishop was appointed to attend meeting of Australian Apple and Pear Export Freight Committee.

HELP TO COMMERCE.

The Port of London is unique in that the Authority (or Directorate) relieves merchants of an immense expense and load of responsibility. It receives all produce from the vessels and renders all the services required in the course of marketing and delivery of goods. Weighing, taring, grading, surveying, sorting to quality and condition, blending and hundreds of other operations. Samples are drawn, representative of the bulk, and such trust is placed on dock samples that transactions of great magnitude are effected on them without buyer or seller ever seeing the goods. Merchants, therefore, have no need to take their goods away until sold, when they can go direct to the buyers.



GOODMAN'S FRUIT TREES

SUCCESS

Comes to the Fruit Grower who plants a Goodman Orchard!

Quality Trees—backed by over 43 years' expert knowledge and experience—yield bumper crops of First Quality Fruit, which brings highest prices in every market!

Reliable trees sent any distance. Write for Catalogue.

C. J. GOODMAN PICNIC POINT NURSERIES BAIRNSDALE

The Victorian Fruit Marketing Association

The monthly meeting of the Executive of the Victorian Fruit Marketing Association was held at the Commercial Travellers' Association, Melbourne, on Friday, December 1, 1933. There were present Messrs. Brown (Chairman), A. S. Harrison (vice-president), F. Cave, J. W. Bailey, J. Barker, K. V. Eagle, J. B. Mills, E. I. Lawford, W. A. Webb, C. Parnham, W. H. Carne, W. P. Hutchinson, F. R. Mellor, J. G. B. McDonald (Northern Victoria Fruit-growers' Association), F. Moore, V. Lawford, J. J. Tully (Southern Pear Packing Company), W. A. Thiele, H. G. Colombie, R. Fowler, S. Scott, J. M. Jacobs, E. Meeking (Department of Agriculture), and the Secretary (R. E. Boardman). Apologies were received from Messrs. Ward, Jost, and Ford.

Apple and Pear Export: The Chairman gave a complete review of the recent Australian Apple and Pear Export Council Conference in Sydney.

Mr. J. B. Mills said that the decisions re export quantities were not so much limitation as the sending to the British market the maximum quantity in accordance with market requirements. This new system would mean co-operation with the British producer. Owing to the fact that freight contracts had been cancelled, it had been possible to insert in the new agreement clauses regarding the desired quantities for export. Cables exchanged with New Zealand revealed the willingness of the Dominion to concur in the limitation programme; the total quantities from Australia to the U.K. and the Continent would be 5½ million bushels.

UNIFORM PEAR CASE: In reply to a question, the Chairman stated that the standard Pear case (18 x 11½ x 8½) had been recommended for adoption in 1935.

Mr. Moore stated that two years ago the Victorian Pear exporters would have accepted the standard case referred to as the uniform size for adoption. Later experience, however, had shown that the long bushel, with strawboard lining, was the better case. Messrs. J. J. Tully, W. A. Webb, W. A. Thiele, J. G. B. McDonald and E. I. Lawford supported this view. A Pear Committee was formed, as follows:—Messrs. E. I. Lawford, W. A. Thiele, F. Moore, J. G. B. McDonald, H. Ford, F. R. Mellor, A. S. Harrison, co-opting, Mr. S. J. Perry.

LIMITATION OF APPLE VARIETIES: References were made to the possibility of including the varieties Champion, Rymer and Yapeen. It was pointed out that the list of varieties for 1934 export had been decided upon from an all-Australian point of view, and no alteration could be made for the forthcoming season. The varieties

mentioned were noted for future consideration. The list could be revised annually.

INSPECTION OF EXPORT FRUIT: Mr. Bailey referred to losses incurred through repacking and rewiring cases opened for export inspection. Mr. McDonald and Mr. Hutchinson stated that inspection of fruit in the packing sheds during packing operations should be sufficient. It was decided to write to the Department of Agriculture requesting that as far as possible the inspection of export fruit be conducted at packing houses during the actual process of packing for export. Seconded Mr. Carne. Carried.

VICTORIA.

Panton Hill.—At the December meeting of the Panton Hill Fruitgrowers' Association, the method of allotting stands in the Victoria Market was criticised. It was decided to approach the Marketing Committee of the City Council, also Mr. Everard, M.L.A. It is proposed to hold a horticultural show at the end of March or Easter time, the schedule to provide for fruit, vegetables and flowers.

BAIRNSDALE GROWERS ORGANISING.

Local Cool Storage Under Consideration.

At a meeting of fruitgrowers held at Bairnsdale on November 24, 1933, the following growers were present: Messrs. T. Bourke, D. Heritage, T. Mathews, R. King, A. Fraser, G. Healey, R. Dahlsen, R. Overy, T. J. Peart, and R. C. Mathews (representing Palmer and Co.).

It was decided to form an organisation known as the Bairnsdale Fruitgrowers' Association: Mr. T. J. Peart was elected President and Mr. R. C. Matthews, Secretary; all members to be appointed a Committee, with five as a quorum; annual subscription, 2/6.

It was decided that the President, Secretary, and Mr. G. Healey, interview the managers of the local butter factories in regard to the possibility of local cool storage and report to a later meeting.

The Association desires to be represented at any important fruitgrower meetings held in Melbourne with the object of furthering the interests of fruitgrowers.

Following brief reports from the President and Secretary on meetings of fruitgrowers which they had attended in Melbourne recently, it was agreed that organisation amongst the growers was imperative if they desired to improve their position.

It was decided to approach such local growers who had not responded to invitations to attend the meetings, urging them, in their own interests, to join up.

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Sulphate of Ammonia

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Dressing for Citrus Trees

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Fruit Trees Lacking in Growth

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Full Particulars from

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South Australia.

Mid-Murray Notes.

Renmark (24/12/33).

The dried fruits industry throughout the River areas is discussing various ways and means of carrying into effect certain recommendations embodied in the report of Mr. E. J. Roberts, of Mildura, who has recently visited England on behalf of his firm.

This report, which is now widely known as the "Robert's Report," brings home to us the need for drastic alterations in processing of sultanas and various other marketing aspects, if we are to keep our market in the United Kingdom, in competition with the Cretan and Smyrna sultanas. Some years ago an attempt was made to standardise certain formulas for use in the dipping of sultanas, and whereas growers have chiefly confined themselves to what is known as the mixed potash-caustic soda dip, and the cold potash dip, there is a proprietary mixture also on the market which further complicates color types. Furthermore, even by the use of a single dip, it is possible for growers' samples to vary in color owing to different handling methods after dipping, and to obviate the multiplicity of color types now prevailing, we will have to confine ourselves to, not only standardising a dip, but to standardising methods on the drying green from start to finish. Our packers and merchants have stressed for many years the necessity of obtaining a light colored fruit for the British market, but not enough publicity has been given to the exact shade of fruit required, and in an attempt to get a light color, each individual grower has attempted to get shades from lemon yellow, and straw color to golden, but the greatest sinner of all has been the man who does not bleach out the green tinges.

The grades and color variations which existed last year were an absurdity; there were six crown grades, many variations of types in each grade, and yet more such types with each variation, truly enough confusion to make the average fruit classer the most criticised man in the industry. It is with some satisfaction to the writer to know that types will be more limited during the coming season owing to the fact that packers have sent out a strongly worded circular, emphasising the fact that under no consideration will green

tinged Sultanas be accepted for packing, also with equal emphasis they refuse to pack fruit imperfectly cured.

Improperly cured fruit loses color quickly, with the result that although it may be packed as four-crown, there has been a decided deterioration when having been in the ship's hold for five weeks and passing through the tropics it is subjected to humid conditions, it opens up a piebald sample of many grades lower than four-crown.

Certain color changes are inevitable in the course of time, when the use of caustic soda is applied in any dip. In the same way an excess of free oil will affect the ultimate color of fruit dipped with the cold potash dip. The main object at the present time is to find a means of commercialising an experiment carried out by Mr. R. M. Voullaire, Jr., of Merbein, in which the ultimate color change becomes fixed in a few hours, after which there is no further change in color type.

Whether this can be best done by the packer or the grower is still a matter for conjecture, but the possibility of producing a fixed color must appeal to everyone in the industry. To attain this object the packer and the individual grower must work in harmony in the common interests of all.

Our overseas buyers require a long line of even colored fruit, and the writer would even go to the extreme of advocating legislation to specify a single formula dip to effect this end. Although this would lead to a great deal of opposition in some quarters, it would ultimately lead to a more even sample; it would bring us in line with our Smyrna competitors in this respect.

British buyers can buy Sultanas from Crete and Smyrna, years in advance on certain grade types, knowing these to be consistent and unchangeable, and this is an objective to be aimed at by ourselves.

Pooled Returns.

The success of pooling returns in the New Zealand and Canadian markets has led to much discussion on the possibilities of a more comprehensive pool embracing also the United Kingdom. Such a pool to my mind would have among other things, the effect of a more even grade sample being produced, inasmuch as there would be less desire on the part of the grower to produce an outstanding and individual color type, but would tend more to a levelling

and evening of grades. Competition between packers to pack an outstanding line has been to a great extent responsible for the multiplicity of types, but with pooled returns the desire would be to even up, by a process of blending rather than to keep individual color types apart.

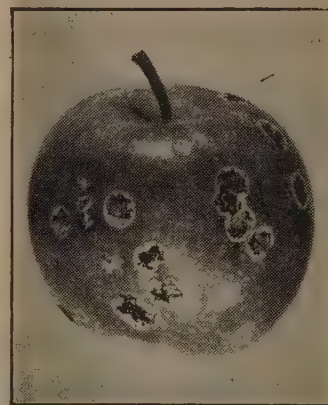
The fruit season is now upon us and as soon as grade samples are fixed for the season they should be open for inspection by the whole of the growers in each area, instead of being kept wholly to the knowledge of packers. Invitations might be extended through local executives and as much publicity as possible given

to the grades desired by the trade, this would give growers something to be aimed at. Since the departure from the boiling caustic soda dip, some years ago, the popular conception of the color required has undergone many changes, until, at the present time a good deal of confusion exists, and the only way to educate the grower to present requirements is by inspection of grade samples as fixed by the experts.

Grade samples should not vary from year to year, but remain fixed so that overseas buyers could buy from us, as from our competitors, with the knowledge that forward buying may be a future possibility.—"Nemo."



*An apple leaf affected with
Black Spot.*



*Granny Smith Apple affected with
Black Spot.*



ATLANTIC BORDEAUX SPREADER

is the ideal two-purpose spray. Use in proportion of from $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 gallon to 100 gallons of any compatible spray mixture. After emulsification with an equal quantity of water, Atlantic can be added directly to the prepared spray in the tank, but should be thoroughly mixed before use. Atlantic stabilises the mixture and improves the general quality of the spray. It can also be used for the control of scale and insect pests on citrus trees in the proportion of 1 gallon Atlantic to 50 gallons of water.

ATLANTIC WHITE SPRAYING OIL

Orchardists who prefer a miscible white oil are recommended to use Atlantic White Spraying Oil, for the control of Brown Olive Scale, San Jose Scale, Red Scale, etc. Atlantic White Oil is entirely free from moisture and ammonia and readily miscible with any water. A solution of 60 gallons of water to one gallon of Atlantic will enable you to control scale pests economically and safely.

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**RENMARK GROWERS'
DISTILLERY.**

At the annual meeting of the shareholders of the Renmark Growers' Distillery Co-operated, held on December 19, there were no new nominations for vacancies of the retiring members so that they were declared elected. The committee of management consists of Messrs. D. T. Durieu (chairman), H. Edmonds (vice-chairman), Messrs. A. Philpott, O. Weste, F. Hooper, C. H. Katekar, W. Pitt, without alteration from last year. The balance sheet showed a satisfactory year's operations, showing more money to have been distributed among shareholders

than for very many years past. This could only be accomplished by a sound financial policy, and a satisfactory article for sale. The chairman, in his remarks, asked growers to deliver the same tonnage as last year, as, in the event of a small tonnage of fruit for processing, overhead costs were relatively high, and the only course to be adopted for continued business was in a continuity of supply of fresh Grapes. The meeting expressed its appreciation of the financial position.

RENMARK A.D.F.A.

The annual meeting of the local branch of the A.D.F.A. (Australian Dried Fruits Association) was held

on December 21, when the chairman, Mr. C. Ruston, read the balance sheet, which was adopted without comment. Mr. R. Moss was elected an additional member of the Committee.

The chairman outlined the relative functions of this body with that of the State Dried Fruits Board and Export Control Board, as there appeared to be some confusion in the minds of growers on this matter. Mr. H. D. Howie spoke on various phases of the industry, and Mr. E. N. Seary spoke on the control of tree fruits and the need for raising the quality. The moist Apricot pack had been so satisfactory that a forward order of 37 tons had been received from London.

SHEPPARTON CANNERY.

Profit of £25,881.

At the annual meeting of the Shepparton Fruit Preserving Co. Ltd., on December 19, there was an attendance of 300, Mr. A. W. Fairley presiding. A highly satisfactory report was presented, the profit being £25,881. The chairman spoke of the necessity for reducing the Peach pack this year: the position with regard to canned Apricots and Pears was sound. Further details next issue.

CANNED FRUIT EXPORTS.

The Minister for Commerce (Mr. F. H. Stewart) reports the export of canned Apricots, Peaches and Pears from January 1 to November 30 amounted to the equivalent of 1,404,430 dozen 30 oz. tins, as against 1,169,681 dozen 30 oz. tins for the same period last year.

The shipments were made up as follows:—Apricots, 243,492 dozen; Peaches, 666,643; and Pears, 494,295; while destinations were: United Kingdom, 1,299,678 doz.; the East, 39,950; Canada, 23,980; and New Zealand, 34,552.

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 REGULAR SAILINGS TO CONTINENTAL PORTS provide unrivalled MARKETS for re-export of EMPIRE FRUIT.

Specially Constructed REFRIGERATOR VANS carry FRUIT direct from STEAMER to inland destinations by EXPRESS TRAINS.

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NEW ZEALAND.—J. A. Redpath & Sons Ltd., 181 Cashel-street, Christchurch, & Branches.

DELEGATE FOR LONDON CONFERENCE.

Geoffrey W. Brown is a Capable Representative of the Australian Apple and Pear Industry.

THE AUSTRALIAN FRUIT INDUSTRY is to be congratulated on securing the services of Mr. Geoffrey W. Brown to attend the Empire Producers' Conference at London in March as the delegate of the Australian Apple and Pear Export Council.

Besides having control of one of the largest orchards in Victoria—98 acres at Merricks North, near Red Hill—Mr. Brown has proved himself to be a man of outstanding ability, a clear thinker, a forceful and convincing speaker having a wide vision as to the development of the fruit industry.

The son of Dr. W. H. Brown, of Colac, Victoria, Geoffrey Brown was born in Colac in 1894. He is thus 40 years of age. He was educated at Geelong Grammar School and Cambridge, England, taking honors in Natural Science. One of his companions in study at Cambridge was Mr. C. A. W. Hawker, M.P., who was recently Minister for Commerce.

Mr. Brown knows England well, and is personally familiar with English fruitgrowing conditions.

When the Victorian Fruit Marketing Association was first mooted, Mr. Brown immediately saw the unique possibilities of this form of organisation—with growers and shippers on the same executive—and placed his whole energies unreservedly at the service of the organisation. He has continuously represented the Mornington Peninsula as a member of the Executive of the V.F.M.A., and is now enjoying his second term as President. He is one of the grower representatives of Victoria on the Apple

and Pear Export Council, and is a member of the Executive and Chairman of the Finance Committee.

A few years ago Mr. Brown was a member of the Commission appointed by the Government to enquire into Home Maintenance Areas for soldier settlers, and in this capacity visited orchards and farms throughout the State.

Other of his activities include Chairman of the Red Hill Cool Store; Chairman, Finance Committee of the V.F.M.A., and Vice-President, Thrips Investigation League.

The forthcoming Producers' Conference in London will continue the work begun at Ottawa. An Empire Fruit Federation is proposed; this is needed now that the Empire Marketing Board is not now functioning as previously. Statistics will be arranged for so that each country can mark its progress in fruit culture, and as far as possible avoid over-production and gluts. Preferences will be sought against subsidised foreign fruit importations into U.K.—possibly a quota system will be evolved. At the same time there will be co-operation with the British fruit producers, remembering their prior right to the British markets during the season of their supply.

While in England, Mr. Brown will enquire into the many phases of fruit importations into U.K. with, of course, especial reference to Australian supplies, and such improvements as are possible. Mr. Brown will look into such questions as fruit tree stocks, cider manufacture, cool storage, gas storage and the transport of fruit on steamers.

The Australian Apple and Pear Export Council has done wisely in providing for the attendance of a grower delegate at the vitally important conference in March, and in Mr. Brown the Australian fruit industry has a highly qualified representative. He sails for London at the end of January.

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Australian and New Zealand
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"The Fruit World," Box 1944
G.P.O., Melbourne.

Apples in Cold Storage.

Low Temperature Causes Breakdown.

(Contributed by W. M. Carne, Division of Plant Industry.)

The object of this note is to record the common and serious recurrence of low temperature breakdown in Tasmanian Apples, a disorder not previously recorded from Australia (including Tasmania).

On transferring to Tasmania in July, 1932, the writer made a survey of the wastage occurring in Apples in Southern Tasmanian cool stores. By October, wastage was found to be serious and widespread, though fruit from certain orchards was much more affected than from others. Through the inspectors of the Department of Agriculture, it was ascertained that similar wastage was occurring in cool stores in the northern part of the State not visited by the writer. From the same source it was ascertained that similar wastage occurred annually, but varied in different years, 1929 being the previous bad year. The varieties affected were mainly Scarlets, Stur-

mer, and French Crab, the former from about August, and the two latter from about October.

age properties of their fruit. Certain varieties were also obtained from orchards giving fruit of good storage reputation. The following varieties were stored:—Cox's Orange Pippin, Jonathan, Cleopatra, French Crab, Sturmer, Scarlet, Delicious, and Democrat. In each instance, the fruit was divided between two chambers as under:—

Chamber.	Commercial.	Special.
Cooling system	Cold air	Overhead grids
Temperature at 6 feet		
from floor	31 deg-34 deg. .	38 deg.-40 deg.
Humidity	92-99 per cent. .	90-98 per cent.

So far, it has been shown that low temperature is definitely associated with breakdown in Cox's Orange Pippin and Jonathan. In the former, the symptoms were typical of those recorded in this variety by the Cambridge Low Temperature Research Station in England and by the Cawthron Institute in New Zealand. The incidence of breakdown after less than ten weeks' cool storage varied from about double to over 30 times as much at the lower as at the higher temperature, according to the tree from which the fruit was taken. The breakdown in this variety

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mer, and French Crab, the former from about August, and the two latter from about October.

On personal experience of low temperature breakdown in Bramley's Seedling, seen in England in 1931, and from published data, the principal cause of wastage in Tasmania was tentatively diagnosed as being this disorder. Low-temperature breakdown is known to develop in certain varieties in Great Britain, New Zealand, and the United States of American when stored at temperatures below 38-40 deg. F. Apples vary in susceptibility according to soil and climatic conditions, size of fruit, etc., and when very susceptible are liable to breakdown at even 38 deg.

As this disorder had not been previously recognised in Australia, steps were taken in 1933 to confirm the diagnosis. To this end, arrangements were made with the Department of Agriculture and the Huonville Co-operative Cool Store to provide suitable accommodation. The Department erected a small chamber in the cool store, the co-operative society providing the refrigeration. Fruit was obtained from several sources, and particularly from those orchards which had a poor reputation for the stor-

is of the soggy type, and agrees with that recorded for Grimes and Wealthy Apples in Iowa, U.S.A., by Plagge and Maney (Iowa Agric. Expt. Sta., Res. Bull. 115, 1928). In Jonathan, breakdown developed in less than ten weeks' cool storage, as in Cox's Orange Pippin, but was of a mealy type. In the only line (two pickings) of this variety used, the wastage at the lower temperature was approximately twice that at the higher.

The following types of breakdown associated with storage at low temperatures have been noted to date:—

Soggy Type.—Sturmer and French Crab. Severe in 1932 in all cool stores in State. Cox's Orange Pippin in 1933.

Mealy Type.—Scarlets in 1932. Jonathans in 1933. This form in Jonathan and Scarlets has caused serious complaints on the Sydney markets in 1933. There are indications that even ordinary storage on the orchards in Tasmania is at too low a temperature for susceptible fruit.

Core Flush.—Scarlet 1932.

—Journal of the Council for Scientific & Industrial Research.

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Mushroom Growing in Sydney.

(By J.L.C.)

MUSHROOMS growing in shop windows are to be seen everywhere in Sydney. They attract much attention, and provide a fine advertisement for a young Spaniard who is growing mushrooms on a commercial basis in a railway tunnel at Circular Quay. The growth of the business has been amazing as a result of the publicity given to it, and the railway tunnel has proved a little gold mine for the originator of the city mushroom farm.

The tunnel where the mushrooms are being grown was made to carry the underground railway to Circular Quay, but the tunnel will not be required until a railway station is built over Circular Quay.

In this tunnel the young Spaniard made his mushroom beds, and since last April has produced over three tons of mushrooms. Ninety tons of manure were used to make the beds from which bushels of mushrooms are removed every day to supply city shops. The price he has been receiving for them until recently was 2/3 per pound, and they sold readily in the shops at 3/- per pound.

The owner of this unique business is now producing enough spawn to supply his own requirements, and those of the general public as well. He is now making up the spawn in packets weighing one pound each; this, he claims, will produce thirty pounds of mushrooms.

When he first approached the Government regarding the use of the tunnel, officials became interested in the proposition, and on July 15 the Minister for Agriculture (Mr. H. Main), Minister for Labor (Mr. J. Dunningham), Mr. G. D. Ross (Secretary Department of Agriculture), Dr. Noble (State Biologist), and other officials paid the new industry a visit, and approved of it.

Mushrooms are not difficult to grow providing good spawn is used. They can be grown in boxes, on the floor of a dark, damp outbuilding, in beds, in the garden, or on a lawn. In the case of lawns, impregnate the soil with the spawn, and let nature do the rest. The return from lawns, however, will not be so good as the return from properly formed beds.

Making the Beds.

Although horse manure is commonly used, they will also grow with cow manure that contains straw.

If Cow Manure is used, there should be four parts of straw to one part of cow manure, well mixed, with just sufficient moisture to keep the straw damp. Place in heaps up to three to four feet in height, and turn every four or five days, for five times.

For Horse Manure: Collect fresh horse manure, preferably with straw—straw can be added to it. Wet it, pile it in a heap three to four feet high. Protect it from rain, and at intervals of four to six days turn it, making of it a fresh heap. Repeat five times.

To know the right amount of moisture required in the manure, take a small handful of manure, close your hand, and press hard; if only one drop of water appears or falls from between your fingers, the moisture is right, but if two or more drops of water appear from between your fingers, the manure is too wet, and it is to be allowed to ferment a few more days, when it will rid itself of that surplus moisture, and the beds may then be made.

Place the manure (compost) in boxes on the floor or on benches twelve inches thick. Now tramp it well until

it is well compact. When finished, the beds should be from six to ten inches thick, and four days after the beds have been made, the spawn, in pieces a bit larger than a walnut, are to be buried in the beds half inch in depth and ten inches apart, pressing it hard so as to ensure good contact.

Leave the beds alone for two weeks, at the end of which time place on top of the beds a moist layer of sandy loam, half to one inch thick, placing on top of the soil a few layers of newspapers. The newspapers are to be kept damp, but no water must drip or run from them.

Six weeks after planting, tiny mushrooms will appear. The papers are then removed, and for the first time water the beds just sufficient to keep the soil moist. Keep it in that condition throughout the cropping period, which should be three to five months. After that, the beds should be replanted with spawn.

FILBERTS IN AUSTRALIA.

THE matter of nut growing in Australia has received considerable attention recently, first through the rediscovery of our native nut, the Macadamia, and its great commercial possibilities; and, secondly, through the fresh start given to Walnut-growing through Mr. Wicks' successes in budding that tree on a commercial scale. The Pecan, too, has been successfully propagated in this State by grafting.

Very little attention has, however, been paid to the Filbert as it has been considered a cold climate plant more suited to Tasmania and the highlands of Victoria.

A pamphlet just to hand from Mr. R. H. Turk, of Redding, California, opens up fresh light on the matter, and although there is a very great difference between the climatic conditions of California and those of most parts of Australia, the fact that varieties have been evolved that do well under their high summer temperatures, should encourage us to try some of those varieties under our conditions.

The fact that the Filbert is a small tree and comes into bearing within a couple of years, makes it an "accessory before the fact" of the Walnut or Pecan grower, and would greatly reduce the strain of financing a nut grower over his first few years.

The experience of Mr. Turk in the matter of pollination should be of help to us. The nut grower, even more than the fruitgrower, should not fail to realise that even when not absolutely necessary to secure a minimum crop cross-pollination will in many seasons be the one thing lacking to enable us to secure a payable crop.—Herbert J. Rumsey, Dundas, N.S.W.

An investigation into the manufacture of Banana by-products is being carried out by the Department of Agriculture, N.S.W. Curing processes for cooking, confectionery and other purposes are being tested with the idea of finding markets for the small-sized fruit.

Scientific Research has a most important bearing on the nation's balance sheet.

Details are set forth in a valuable address recently delivered by Sir Frank E. Smith, K.C.B., D.Sc., etc., before the British Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

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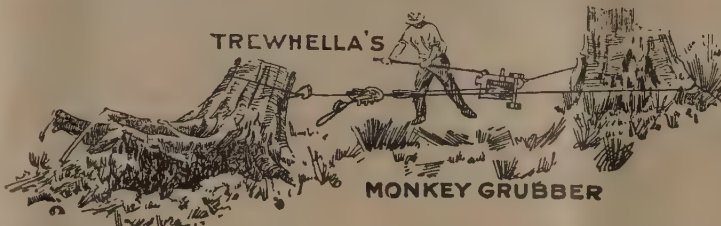
Previous experience had convinced me that to be really efficient a grubbing machine should have ample power and ropes that will meet the heavy demands required of them. I found that shovel and axe work is very costly either by itself or in conjunction with a machine. The machine that offered these features, with a host of others, was **THE "MONKEY" GRUBBER.**

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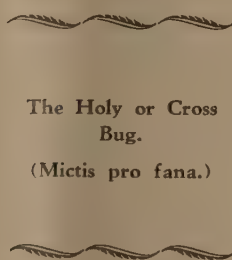
Control of Native Insect Pests.

(By C. French, Biologist, and R. T. M. Pescott, M. Agr. Sc., Entomologist.)

The Harlequin Bug (*Dindymus versicolor* Schon.).—One of its favorite breeding places is the weed, Marsh Mallow, also the common garden Hollyhock. This pest attacks fruit trees, including Apples, Pears, Apricots, Peaches and Almonds, also Grapes. Numerous flower and vegetable plants are also attacked, the most severely affected being Tomatoes, Potatoes, Lettuce, Dahlias, Chrysanthemums, Marigolds and Hollyhock.

The adult Harlequin Bug is about one-half inch in length, with the upper surface of the body brightly marked out into red and black triangles, whilst the predominating color underneath is green.

As members of this particular group are sucking insects, the damage done to fruit is caused in the following way. By means of a sharp proboscis, which is inserted in the fruit, sap is sucked out and the fruit takes on a spotted appearance, and in many cases shows a slight wilting tendency. Almonds are attacked when the developing fruits are soft and green, and very severe gumming of the fruit occurs in these cases. On garden plants the



The Holy or Cross Bug.
(*Mictis profana*.)

young, succulent tips are first attacked, finally the whole tip dying out and preventing normal growth of the plant concerned. One remarkable case that came under our notice lately was where adult Harlequin Bugs were seen actually feeding on the dead larvae of the Painted Apple Moth.

Control.—Use contact sprays. Nicotine sulphate 1 oz. to 5 gallons of water, to which a little soft soap has been added, will prove very effective, particularly when the bugs are in the immature stage. Benzole emulsion, 1 lb. to 5 gallons, will also give satisfactory results. Clensel,



The Harlequin Bug.—2, 3 and 4 Adult Female; 5, Larva about two-thirds grown; 6, section of fruit showing damage.

(Illustrations by courtesy of "Journal of Agriculture of Victoria.")

a proprietary insecticide, has given very satisfactory results.

The Holy or Cross Bug (*Mictis profana* Fabr.).—A serious pest in Citrus groves, the main damage being done to the young shoots, the sap of which is sucked, giving the wood a burned appearance and destroying tree growth: in many cases, the whole tree itself dies back to the old wood, causing great disfigurement, and consequent loss of crop.

For control, use contact sprays, such as nicotine sulphate, benzole emulsion, and Clensel, as recommended for Harlequin Bugs.

The Rutherglen Bug (*Nysius vinitor* Berg.).—Breeds, in its native state, in grass lands, and during the summer swarms over all kinds of field crops and fruit trees in countless millions, sucking the sap of both foliage and fruit. The principal plants attacked are Peaches, Apricots, Strawberries, Raspberries and other berries, Grapes, Tomatoes, Potatoes, Silver Beet and Broad Beans. The adult insects are small, under one-sixth of an inch in length, dull brown to grey in color, with silvery-grey wings. On succulent plants such as Potatoes and Tomatoes the terminal shoots are affected most, and later any part of the plant may be attacked, until the plant is actually killed. On fruit trees the fruits themselves are attacked, and completely ruined.

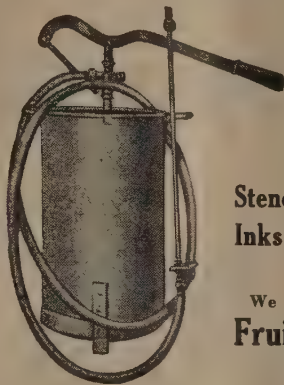
Control measures recommended are: (a) cultural, and (b) chemical. The cultural methods consist in the main of clean cultivation throughout the latter part of winter and in the spring. This assists in destroying weeds on which the young bugs are developing. The chemical methods are: (a) the use of smudge fires, and (b) the use of spray materials. Smudge fires, and particularly those in which sulphur is incorporated, have proved very satisfactory in driving the bugs away from the trees. Spraying methods consist of the use of nicotine sulphate and benzole or kerosene emulsion as a contact spray when the bugs are actually on the trees. A phenyle spray has also been used with much success. This is prepared as follows: Take 1 quart of phenyle, 3 lb. of washing soda, 1 bar of yellow soap, and 40 gallons of water. Shred the soap, and dissolve it in hot water, to which the other ingredients should be added, and the mixture made up to 40 gallons. In many cases, where weeds are al-



The Rutherglen Bug.—2 and 3, under and upper views of perfect insect (magnified); 4, head magnified; and 5, adult insect, slightly magnified.

lowed to grow, these are sprayed with a poison which destroys the young bugs in their immature stage. Other methods consist in dusting the main branches and trunk of the trees with lime after spraying, or dislodging the insects by shaking. This prevents in insects from climbing up the trees.—Vic. Journal of Agriculture.

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The Vegetable Garden.

Now is a good time to use poison baits against several of the pests of the vegetable garden. Carrots, Turnips and other vegetables are considerably damaged by cut-worms. These may be controlled by working poison baits into the soil, which are prepared as follows:—Dip leaves of Cabbage or Lettuce in arsenate of lead; let the poison dry on the leaves, then cut up finely and work into the soil. Calcium arsenate baits are also effective. These baits will kill the cockchafer grub, caterpillars, or cut-worms, larvae on Tomato weevil, millipedes, snails, slugs, woodlice, etc. There are several proprietary baits which are very destructive to these pests.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

We have received a copy of the book—"The Apple," by Sir A. Daniel Hall, Director of the John Innes' Horticultural Institution, and M. B. Crane, Pomologist at the John Innes' Horticultural Institution, England. The book is nicely illustrated, and we are sure will be greatly appreciated. The chapters include: History of the Apple; Structure of the Apple and its Nucleus; Variations and Fluctuations; Fertilisation, Sterility and Incompatibility; Breeding; Soil, Manuring and Cultivation; The Grass Orchard; Stocks and Propagation; Lay-out; Pruning; Diseases and Spraying; Varieties; Picking and Storage. The price is 10/6, obtainable from Martin Hopkinson, 23 Soho Square, London.

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Cold Storage In Australasia

In response to many requests, the "Fruit World" is now reserving this special Fruit Cool Storage Section to deal with the everyday problems of the cool store manager and refrigerating engineer, from whom enquiries are invited. Practical cool storage notes of interest are also invited from readers. Address correspondence to Practical Refrigeration Department, "The Fruit World," Box 1944, G.P.O., Melbourne, or 439 Kent-street, Sydney, N.S.W.

The Cold Storage of Apples.

(By W. J. Williams, F.C.S. (Lond.), Supt. of Markets, Sydney.)

(Continued from December "Fruit World.")

A very interesting test was made, when certain varieties of Apples were frozen, and it was found, by the use of the microscope, that ice formed between the various cells. It must here be stated that the formation of ice can be readily seen in the freezing of meats. Apples are not frozen unless there has been a mistake in the temperature of the room, but it can be easily recognised that if Apples are frozen and ice is formed, when the ice thaws the cells of the Apple are broken and the fruit is destroyed.

If an Apple reaches its freezing point for just a little while, perhaps not much danger is done, but if the freezing is prolonged it can be recognised when the Apple is taken out of store because of the browning of the flesh, and it definitely shows that the cell has been injured to its dying point. When the Apples are frozen, the flesh firstly becomes dry and mealy, then is very insipid, and it is not long before the fruit gets very soft and fermentation sets in. The Apple will soon, to all intents and purposes, be dead.

Continual examinations must be made of Apples so that the exact time when they are delivered from the cold store will be ascertained. The Apple is such a useful foodstuff, that the time has arrived when it should come out of store regularly and in definite quantities, rather than the sending out, as has been done in the past, in irregular quantities and at irregular periods. With the application of scientific knowledge that is possessed by the cold storage expert, he will keep his fruit in cold store, and place week by week certain quantities into the room with the higher temperature ready to go on to the market.

Cold storage of Apples is only one process in the long series of processes that take place from the time the Apple is growing on the tree until it has been delivered safely to the consumer's home.

Diseases in Store.

(A) Scald.

Scald has been one of the most difficult troubles that has had to be contended with in the cold storage of Apples. At times whole consignments have been placed in store which, when they were placed in store were almost in perfect condition. Scald developed on the fruit in store, but at times it did not appear until after the fruit had been taken out of store.

Scald is a brown stain which appears on the skin of the Apple and is only skin deep. It does not affect the eating quality of the Apple, but, unfortunately, spoils the appearance of the fruit. Many reasons have been given for the development of this disease.

It has been said that scald is caused by the gases given off by the Apples themselves, and Apples that are immature will develop this disease. There is not the slightest doubt that this disease does appear on the green side of the fruit. Some experts have said that scald appears on fruit that has been grown in a very wet district. These factors may contribute to the development of scald but it is very hard to say exactly the cause of this unfortunate trouble which is so likely to spoil fruit of the very best quality and appearance.

While doubt exists as to the exact cause of scald, there is not any doubt that it can be overcome very largely by wrapping fruit in oiled wrappers. It has also been ascertained that the percentage of scald is not so great in ventilated rooms as in unventilated ones.

It can be definitely stated that this serious disease is not one of the cold storage room, but rather the effect of the conditions under which the fruit has been grown. Well matured fruit rarely develops scald so that the orchardist will be a definite factor in seeing that his Apples are exposed to a great deal of sunlight so that a good color is produced in the skin of the fruit, and this makes it more resistant to scald.

There is not the slightest doubt that another thing that has to be taken into consideration, and that is dealt with under the heading of precooling, is that Apples should be precooled as soon as possible.

Apples that were placed in store after being left out in the rain certainly showed more scald than those that had not been in the rain. It is essential, quite apart from the fact that wet Apples or wet cases would develop moulds, that the fruit should be kept dry, otherwise it is likely that scald may develop under such conditions.

Granny Smith Apples seem to develop this trouble and give more evidence of this disease than any other variety. Tests were made especially with this fruit, both wrapped and unwrapped, and it was clearly proved that, with some Granny Smiths which had been in store for over two months, the unwrapped fruit showed 50 per cent. more

scald than those wrapped in oil paper. Oiled wraps should carry 16 to 18 per cent. of weight of tasteless, odorless mineral oil. As a matter of fact in most cases the wrapped fruit showed very little scald at all.

There is a type of scald known as "soft scald," which attacks the Jonathan Apple, and many investigations have been made concerning this. It has been found that maturity of fruit, ventilation and wrapping have had some effect on "soft scald," while it must be clearly understood that here again this is a pre-cold storage trouble and not caused by slight inconsistencies in the cold storage works. For instance, it was found that the Jonathan stored at 32 degrees, while soft scald appeared there was a greater percentage in some Apples that were kept at 36 degrees. At the same time it was also ascertained that with a high humidity the percentage was greater. Some fruit was kept in common storage, and the development of soft scald was very much greater than in the cold storage room.

The time of picking has its influence here as ordinary scald and soft scald appears on the green side of the Apple with much more readiness than on the side showing color. This clearly proves that the trouble starts from the time when the fruit has been picked so that the orchardist will have to be educated as to the best time that his fruit has to be picked if it has to be stored or shipped overseas if he wishes to avoid this trouble.

Wrapping in oiled paper certainly gives better results than the unwrapped fruit or fruit wrapped in ordinary paper, but it was not so effective in eliminating this trouble as in the case of ordinary scald, such as described in reference to Granny Smiths, so that while wrapping—in oiled paper may be an advantage it does not give every satisfaction. Soft scald, no doubt, develops in

immature fruit. In the absence of oxygen, scald can easily be produced, therefore, the oxygen content of the air should not be diminished to such a point that scald would be the result.

Soft scald is very different to ordinary scald, as a matter of fact, this does penetrate the flesh of the fruit whereas scald is only a disease of the skin. Scald has been prevented by the use of oiled paper, but this method has not been successful with soft scald which so easily occurs in Apples of the varieties of Jonathan and Rome Beauty.

It has been found by placing Apples into cold storage promptly after picking that soft scald can be prevented. Apples should be in the pre-cooler within the first 24 hours after being picked. These Apples should be of proper maturity, great care being exercised in seeing that the Apples are just ripe. The store has been blamed for the scalded condition of Apples, but there is not the slightest doubt that the fault can be sheeted home very definitely to the orchard.

It was thought at one time that scald which occurred on the fruit not fully matured, was caused by the Apple coming back to the air temperature after it had been in the cold storage room. This is not correct, although the browning may not occur until after it has come from the store. Scald does develop in the cold storage room and will develop after it has left the store, but the cause was one long before the Apple was placed in the store, as a matter of fact the picking of that type of fruit at that time of its life was the real cause.

Large Apples will not keep as well as the smaller ones, as the larger variety contain a great deal more moisture than the smaller ones, and are more susceptible to disease and scald is no exception.

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Apple and Pear Export.

No Additional Varieties for Export.

Mr. G. W. Brown for London.

AT a special meeting of the executive of the Australian Apple and Pear Export Council held in Melbourne on December 27, Mr. J. B. Mills presiding, quotas for export fruit from the several States, within the quantity decided upon at the Sydney conference were decided.

Requests were received from several States for the inclusion of Apple varieties: after careful deliberation the following resolution was carried: "In view of the decision of the Sydney conference re limitation of varieties and sizes, this executive considers it has no power to make any alteration for this season, but that the eligibility of Strawberry Pippin, Champion, Pioneer, Rymer, Winesap, Spitzenburg, McIntosh Red, and others be again considered at the 1934 annual conference.

Delegate to Empire Conference.—Mr. G. W. Brown was appointed the delegate of the Council to attend the Empire Producers' Conference in London in March. The nomination of Mr. H. A. Court, of Tasmania, was favorably considered, but as a majority of the States has nominated Mr. Brown, Mr. Court's nomination was graciously withdrawn. It was understood that for the next conference a Tasmanian delegate should be sent.

The chairman reported that the Shipping Companies' Association had agreed to provide a free return passage. The request to the Federal Government for a contribution towards the expenses had been refused, on the ground that the expenses should be met from the export levy.

Keen appreciation was expressed for the generous attitude of Tasmania at the Sydney Conference and in other ways to assist the best development of the Apple and Pear export trade on an all-Australian basis.

N.Z. APPLE AND PEAR EXPORTS.

The export of Apples from New Zealand to U.K. and the Continent this season is expected to be over 1,000,000 cases.

N.Z. FRUIT IMPORTS.

Californian Navels and Canadian Apples.

A few days before Christmas, Californian Navels were selling at 40/- per case in Dunedin.

Canadian Apples, Jonathans and Delicious, sold for 2/- per bushel case. On the same market, local Delicious and Sturmers were selling at from 7/- to 10/6.

U.S.A. PEAR CROP.

The Californian Pear crop for 1933 is estimated at 9,209,000 bushels, as compared with 9,900,000 bushels (of which 7,200,000 bushels were harvested) in 1932. The total Pear crop of U.S.A. in 1933 is estimated at 21,192,000 bushels. In 1932 the crop was 22,050,000 bushels, and 23,346,000 bushels in 1931.

Cultivate a love of reading: it will change otherwise weary hours into hours of delight and profit.

Last season N.S.W. sent more "special" grade Apples than any other State.

MERBEIN RESEARCH STATION.

A meeting of the Advisory Committee of the Commonwealth Research Station, Merbein, was held at Mildura on November 23. There were present Messrs. D. C. Winterbottom (Chairman), J. A. Lochhead, A. E. Cameron, D. Gordon, and A. V. Lyon (Secretary), P. Malloch and A. L. Johnstone. Apologies received from Messrs. A. Lever and S. P. Bromfield.

Mr. Lyon reported that the visit of Sir George Julius and Drs. A. E. V. Richardson and A. C. D. Rivett to Renmark, Mildura, Merbein and the Nyah-Woorinen district was cordially appreciated.

Erection of Laboratory.—The Chairman stated a new laboratory was justified. Contributions from fruitgrowers to the funds of the station now amounted to £1,800, and an additional £1,000 was available for three years (commencing 1934). Mr. Lyon reported that Professor Prescott had estimated the new laboratory would cost £3,000, with increased staff and equipment would make the cost £5,000. It was resolved to approach the Commonwealth Government, through the C.S.I.R., accordingly.

Sultanias in London.—It was decided to bring before growers the necessity for adequate drying and removal of the green tinge. Drying practises varied according to the districts and the seasons.

Control of Dried Fruit Pests.—Messrs. Winterbottom and Malloch reported that the control of dried fruit pests was on the whole satisfactory, though a few cases of early infection had been noted. Mr. Lyon was requested to visit packing houses to assist with advice re control measures.

The next meeting will be held early in February.

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AUSTRALIAN FRUIT IN U.K.

Interview With Mr. Dan Wuille.

I NTERESTING COMMENTS regarding the export of Australian fruits to U.K. were made by Mr. Dan Wuille, of the firm of Dan Wuille and Company Ltd., 100-104 Long Acre, Covent Garden, London, in an interview with the "Fruit World."



Mr. Dan Wuille.

Mr. Wuille noted with pleasure the reduction of varieties decided upon at the recent meeting of the Australian Apple and Pear Export Council in Sydney.

Still Too Many Varieties.

Despite the already heavy restriction of varieties, Mr. Wuille is of the opinion that the list should be still further reduced. He would like to see the following varieties excluded—King David, Geveston Fanny, Shoreland, Queen, King Pippin, Adam's Pearmain, London Pippin, and Stone Pippin. Mr. Wuille is firmly of the opinion that far too many varieties of Apples go forward to the British market. In particular, late Australian culinary Apples clash with early English culinary Apples, even at the end of July or early August.

Australia should recognise, states Mr. Wuille, that the marketing period for Australian Apples is definitely limited. British supplies begin to ease off at the end of February, and become available again early in August. Between that period Australian apples were cordially welcome on the British market, but not in excess quantities. The needs of the British markets should be studied. Australia should supply the varieties, quality and sizes required by British consumers in shipments as evenly spaced as possible.

Mr. Wuille holds the view that the Australian fruit export industry deserves well of the shipping companies, and that, realising the distance the fruit has to be conveyed, only the speediest and best equipped ships should be used. The fruit has to stand up for several weeks after landing, allowing for its distribution through wholesale and retail channels to the consumer. Ships should go direct to British ports, without waiting to unload other cargoes at Continental ports.

Attractive Packing Essential.

Another point emphasised was that the fruit should be presented as attractively as possible. Too much fruit arrived in stained and damaged cases. If hardwood cases were used, they should be made only from seasoned timber, and thus present a neat appearance.

At the present time, New Zealand had a pull over Australia in this respect, their cases being particularly neat and, further, their fruit was delivered in big lines.

Too much Australian fruit came in small lots, which was difficult to clear even at reduced prices. Mr. Wuille suggests that more fruit should be packed through co-operative packing houses to ensure the sending of long lines of standardised varieties.

Mr. Wuille addressed several largely attended meetings of fruitgrowers in New Zealand. Opportunities will be welcomed as far as possible to come into personal contact with Australian growers.

The firm of Dan Wuille and Co. is organised throughout Great Britain, with headquarters at 100-104 Long Acre, Covent Garden, London. The firm is an old established one, built up on the lines of private treaty sales, and has won the esteem of the British public.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN EXPORT PROSPECTS.

I N a letter to the manager of the South Australian Government Produce Department (Mr. G. A. W. Pope), the S.A. Trade Commissioner in London, reported that the nervousness in exporting to Germany last season was not justified. Hamburg appreciates Australian Apples. While unemployment has been now reduced, men are working shorter hours to spread the work available.

Sweden has a heavy crop this season, and Apples are being used in sauce factories. This market likes green Apples: Cleos., Dunns, etc. (red Apples not wanted): they can take 120,000 cases of Australian Apples. Last season sent an additional 60,000 cases transhipped in London and Hamburg, but these did not give the same satisfaction as Australian. W.A. and S.A. Apples are in special demand. Apples arriving in Sweden before May 1 pay 9d. per case duty, after May 1 the duty is 1/6.

The South Australian Trade Commissioner further reported the sale of 30,000 cases of Apples to a Stockholm buyer for delivery before end April. Prices, with exchange worked out at 8/- for Cleos. and Dunns, 7/- Jon. and R.B. f.o.b. Port Adelaide. A further sale of 30,000 cases was pending.

N.S.W. CITRUS CROP PROSPECTS.

In a report regarding citrus prospects, issued just before the close of the year, the Department of Agriculture advised as follows:—

Citrus:

Shedding of young main fruit continues in coastal areas. On present indications the Navel crop setting appears to be irregular and is likely to be lighter than that of last season.

Valencias are showing for generally good to heavy crops, but Common Oranges are patchy. On the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area the Navel crop at this stage appears to be light to medium, but Valencias give promise of heavy yields.

Queensland Oranges.

Queensland.—An increase of at least 5 per cent. in the citrus fruit yield is forecast by the Acting Director of Fruit Culture (Mr. H. Barnes). Heavy and early rains caused the trees to bloom earlier.

An attractive illustrated booklet is to hand from Mr. J. O. Sims, Fruit Broker, Borough Market, London. A history of the business since it was established in 1896 is included, also photos. of the building showing the well-equipped offices, showrooms, auction rooms, etc. The booklet came by courtesy of F. Cave and Co. Pty. Ltd., Melbourne, the Victorian representatives of J. O. Sims.

To clean grease or oil off silk stockings, use a little eucalyptus on a cloth and rub gently.

When the heel of a sock or stocking has to be darned, if a tiny tuck is taken under the foot where it will not be uncomfortable in wearing, the darned heel will not show.—"S.A. Journal of Agriculture."

Closed boxes which do not permit any ventilation have always shown more scald than the boxes which have been open on the sides and tops so as to allow an air circulation. Anything that will take away the gases from the fruit are a help to prevent this particular disease.

Oiled paper must be free from odour and taste otherwise some difficulty may be encountered here. The gases which cause scald come from the Apple and are removed by absorption by the oil in the papers, and to-day scald can be definitely and successfully removed by using this method.

One thing that must be taken into consideration is ventilation. A draft of air passing through the fruit continually, and very slowly at that, will help very largely in preventing scald developing. It must ever be remembered that one of the most effective ways to keep fruit in the cold store is to see that the temperature varies very little indeed.

SUGAR CONCESSION COMMITTEE.

Prices Fixed for Canning and Jam Fruits.

THE Chairman of the Fruit Industry Sugar Concession Committee (Mr. A. R. Townsend) stated on December 7, that the 1933 pack of canned fruits was a record: operations for 1934 were hampered by large stocks unsold. It had been decided at a large meeting of fruitgrowers and canners that the industry would pack during 1934 not more than last year's total quantity of Apricots and Pears, nor more than 50 per cent. of the Peaches canned in 1933.

The minimum prices for canning fruits for 1934 had been determined at £7 per ton for Peaches and Pears, and £8 per ton for Apricots. A bounty of 1/- per dozen 30 oz. cans, or 6d. per dozen 16 oz. cans, will be paid on canned Apricots, Peaches and Pears of the 1934 pack exported by each canner to the United Kingdom up to but not exceeding one-half of the quantity represented—(a) by 50 per cent. of each canner's total 1933 pack of canned Peaches, and (b) by 100 per cent. of his 1933 pack of canned Apricots and Pears.

The export bounty will be paid only to factories which operated during or prior to the 1933 season.

Mr. Townsend said that the committee wished to compliment the industry on its drastic but necessary efforts to put its own house in order, and to utter a warning against the grave danger of any new plantings beyond the present total acreage. It was important to realise, however, that the record output of last season was the result of areas planted at least five years previously.

The committee also fixed the following minimum prices for fruits for jam manufacture:—Apricots, £6 per ton; Peaches, £5 per ton; Plums, £5 per ton; Quinces, £5 per ton.

In addition, a minimum price of £6 per ton was established for Freestone Peaches for canning purposes. All minimum prices apply uniformly in all States. Conditions as to bases of payment are the same as in previous years. The committee also decided to continue for another year from December, 1, 1933, the payment of a special rebate of £5 per ton on the sugar contents of all jams and fruit jellies exported from the Commonwealth. Finally, as in previous years, manufacturers will not be entitled to any payments of domestic sugar rebate or special export assistance and bounties on any

fruit products, unless they pay not less than the minimum prices prescribed by the committee for all fresh fruits which they may purchase for processing during the 1933-34 season.

It is emphasised that the Fruit Industry Sugar Concession Committee does not fix the factory or other prices for berry or other fruits. The published prices are simply the minimum, which factories must pay in order to receive the sugar rebates.

Spray Residue on Apples.

Success With White Oil.

In recent tests by the Victorian Department of Agriculture five different spray programmes were adopted on a block of Apple trees of popular varieties. Each tree was in full bearing, and an equal number of trees was tried out in connection with each spray programme. All trees were treated on practically the same days, and were sprayed on five different occasions between October 26, 1932, and February 7, 1933. Where arsenate of lead alone was used for spraying, it was found that the percentage of codlin moth in the fruit at picking was 7.29; while the amount of arsenic per pound of Apples was 0.039—nearly four times the amount allowable under the regulations.

The second programme included one spraying with a mixture containing barium fluosilicate. This was found to be ineffective, as the codlin moth percentage rose to 16.73, the arsenical residue still being well above the prescribed margin.

Another programme showed an improvement, inasmuch as the percentage of moths was reduced to 6.34, and the arsenical residue 0.031 grains. This programme consisted of five sprayings arsenate of lead (half strength) and a weak solution of white oil used in combination.

By far the best results from every point of view were obtained by using separate sprayings of arsenate of lead and white oil. Two such programmes were adopted.

In the first of these ("A"), the first two sprayings were with arsenate of lead alone—5 lb. of paste to 80 gallons of water. The third spray was with white oil emulsion, 1 in 60. For the fourth, arsenate of lead was again used; and for the fifth, white oil emulsion. In the second of these programmes ("B") the first two sprayings, as before, were with arsenate of lead, and the remaining three with white oil emulsion. Results were almost identical:

	Percentage of Moths.	Arsenic per Lb.
"A"	4.25	0.008
"B"	4.26	0.006

Both "A" and "B" programmes yielded an extra case of marketable Apples per six trees, as compared to trees that were not sprayed with white oil; while, of course, labor for washing or dipping the fruit to remove arsenical residue was entirely saved.

These tests have confirmed the researches of the Vacuum Oil Company Pty. Ltd. Gargoyle White Spraying Oil, which is the Vacuum Oil Company's product, was developed here, and is made in Australia. It would seem that this product, used in a spray programme such as that outlined above, makes available to growers a definite means by which codlin moth-infested Apples may be reduced to a minimum, and yet the arsenical residue on the fruit will conform to the limit prescribed by law.

Evaporated Apples.

Owing to the restriction of varieties and sizes for the export of Apples in 1934, and the necessity for dealing with surplus in Australia, Mr. Robert Harvey, of Cygnet, Tasmania, who has had considerable experience in the preparation of evaporated fruits and vegetables, urges that the Federal Government should grant £10,000 (out of the £125,000 allotted to the fruitgrowers) in order to enable evaporators to process at least 300,000 bushels.

Mr. Harvey points out that in the past some shipments

of evaporated Apples have been made from Tasmania overseas, and although a big market exists for the product, they are unable to compete with U.S.A. owing largely to export freight charges. Recent consignments from Australia have resulted in a loss, but with the assistance of the suggested bounty, the manufacturers would be in the position to buy and process the Apples and thus assist growers to find an outlet for the surplus fruit.

A resolution was carried at the recent annual meeting of the Apple and Pear Export Council, requesting the Commonwealth Government to provide assistance to enable evaporated Apples to be exported overseas.

Black Leaf 40

Death to Aphis (Plant Lice) and Other Insects

Aphis and other insects are common enemies of the orchardist and gardener. Protect your trees, vines and plants with "Black Leaf 40."

In the Orchard and Garden

"Black Leaf 40" is recommended for killing woolly aphis, apple aphis, peach aphis, aphis on roses, other flowers and vegetables, mussel scale (young), Harlequin fruit bug, holy or cross bug, oleander scale (young), San Jose scale (young), red scale (young), red mites (Summer), rutherglen bug, pear and cherry slug, thrip, fine scale (young), pea mite.

In the Poultry Yard

Paint the roosts lightly with "Black Leaf 40" just before the birds go to roost. Body-lice will be destroyed while the flock roosts. To help prevent mites from attacking fowls, tie or tack a piece of heavy cloth around ends of roosts and roost supports and saturate with "Black Leaf 40;" spray inside of house with "Black Leaf 40," three tablespoonsful to a gallon of water to which soap has been added.

"Black Leaf 40" has the endorsement of Agricultural Colleges, Experiment stations and orchardists. It is the World's leading aphis specific. It also kills the young larvae of many chewing insects when sprayed upon them so as to wet their bodies.

Kills By Contact and By Fumes

"Black Leaf 40" has a dual action. It kills plant insects both by fumes and by contact. This double-killing action makes "Black Leaf 40" unusually effective in insect control.

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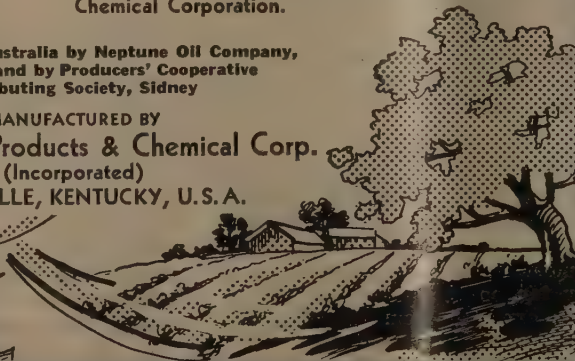
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Dried Fruits.

Act Passed to Include Dried Tree-fruits.

Poll of Growers to be Taken.

The end of the year witnessed the completion of important dried fruit legislation—i.e., the passing of Acts in several States to control dried tree-fruits on the same lines as dried vine fruits, supporting Commonwealth legislation and a new Act in N.S.W., combining both tree and vine fruits. Tree fruits include Prunes, Apricots, Peaches, Pears and Nectarines.

The N.S.W. Dried Fruits Board will be reconstituted under the new Act. A poll of the growers of dried tree-fruits will be held within six months: all dried tree-fruit packing sheds will need to register: also all dealers must register.

* * * * *

During December, Stephen Walter Cooper, described as a laborer, purchased some dried sultanas from a grower and sold same to a country storekeeper without the goods having passed through a registered packing shed. He was fined £10, with 8/- costs.

* * * * *

Copies of the regulations under the N.S.W. Dried Fruits Act are obtainable from the Secretary, N.S.W. Dried Fruits Board, Box 1397J, G.P.O., Sydney.

Sales in Great Britain.

The Commonwealth Dried Fruits Export Control Board advises that, during the fortnight ended December 14, 458 tons of Australian dried fruits were sold in Great Britain.

Two hundred and sixty-four tons of Sultanas averaged £35/2/8, 132 tons of Currants averaged £34/13/-, and 62 tons of Lexias averaged £35/7/11 per ton.

VICTORIAN DRIED FRUITS BOARD.

Messrs. A. Rawlings, H. T. Davey, D. A. Cockroft and S. R. Mansell were elected on a preferential vote. The defeat of Mr. E. T. Henderson came as a surprise.

PRUNES FOR ENGLAND.

Messrs. Pitts and Lehman, of Sydney, have found a splendid market for Prunes in England. They have sent forty tons of tinned Prunes and sixty tons of dried Prunes in boxes to R. and W. Davidson Ltd., of London, during recent months, all of which was sold at a satisfactory price. These Prunes were sent in refrigerated chambers, as former shipments sent as ordinary cargo, landed in bad condition. Pitts and Lehman are also handling many other lines of fruit and food-stuffs for English firms, and are working up a very extensive business for Australian goods.

W.A. DRIED FRUITS BOARD.

The retiring members of the W.A. Dried Fruits Board were re-elected at the recent biennial ballot. These were: Messrs. J. N. Cox, R. Howie, R. J. Lowson, H. O. Newman and P. H. Taylor.

Kyabram Preserving Co.

A Difficult Year Experienced.

Heavy Stocks on Hand.

£7 a ton Offered for Peaches and Only Half Crop to be Processed.

THERE WAS A LARGE attendance at the 11th annual meeting of the Kyabram Co-operative Fruit Preserving Co. on December 16. Mr. R. H. Gent, Chairman of Directors, presided. Messrs. A. D. Brown, F. J. Churches, Jas. Higgs (directors), and C. P. Crichton, Secretary, were also in attendance.

The chairman said that owing to accumulation of stocks the overdraft was £220,037, being an increase of £91,791 over the previous year's figure. Warehouse and consignment stocks stood at £100,737 and £13,511 respectively, being £62,097 more than last year. Sundry debtors were £3,058 as compared with £9,485 last year; this reflected the lower volume of local trade. The nett profit was £171, compared with £3,170 in 1932. There was a heavy carry over at Kyabram and other canneries. Kyabram had sufficient for the year's demand without processing a can this season. Last season the company processed 338 tons of Apricots, 3,992 tons of Peaches and 1,906 tons of Pears,—a total of 5,426 tons, which had produced 7,298,517 cans,—easily a record. The Australian pack was also a record one,—48,000,000 cans against the previous highest total of 42,000,000 cans. British prices had declined, and the alteration of American dollar values affected prices. Anticipating the Ottawa Agreements, California placed 2,500,000 cases of canned fruits in U.K. Heavy fresh fruit supplies had reduced the demand for canned fruit. Australian pack had grown from a half a million to a million cases, and an outlet had to be found. The industry was facing the limitation of production. The Sugar Concession Committee had provided £70,000 to assist export. Limitation of the 1934 pack was essential, else the 1935 pack would be endangered. £7 a ton would be paid for Peaches, and the Cannery could only process 50 per cent. of the crop.

There was a long discussion by Messrs. E. Blackburn, W. F. Cooper, J. E. Toone, and others. Mr. Cooper said that if the Government had kept out of the business things would have been all right, but even if closer settlement has cost the State £2,000,000, it was worth the money.

A motion to adjourn the meeting and send a deputation to the Premier was withdrawn: it was decided to protest to the Premier and the Closer Settlement Board against the low price of £7 a ton.

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Silbert, Sharp & Davies, Wholesale Fruit Market.
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Young, J. H., & Co. Pty., Wholesale Fruit Market.

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Telegraphic Address—"Citrus" Sydney.

Around the Sydney Markets for the Month of December.

THE FEATURE of the past month was the difficulty in marketing stone fruits. All districts experienced wet conditions during the growing period, and in consequence the fruit had no keeping quality. Plums, Peaches, Apricots and Cherries were all affected. Buying for long distance markets, which usually is extensive, was this season very much reduced in volume, and retailers also curtailed their buying when it was seen that the fruit would not stand up.

Despite the warmer weather, the demand for Citrus fruits was not up to normal for this period of the year.

Apples.—Early in the month new season's Apples began to arrive in quantity, and, as usual, sold readily at fair values. The demand for cold-stored fruit naturally fell off, except in the case of N.S.W. Granny Smiths which if green and in good condition sold at high values.

Apricots.—Early consignments sold readily at round 7/-, but as arrivals increased and the fruit was found to be keeping badly, prices came back until the bulk of sales were being made round 3/-.

Bananas.—Supplies increased considerably during the month, very heavy consignments being received from the Northern Rivers of N.S.W. Demand was not sufficient to clear the increased quantity, and prices came back steadily during the month. No improvement can be expected until supplies fall off. A shipment of Fijis came in during the month, but the quantity was too small to have any effect on the market.

Cherries.—Supplies from Young ceased early in the month, but heavy consignments came in from Orange, and later also from Batlow. Rain destroyed a portion of the crop, but supplies exceeded the demand, and except in the case of a few choice lines, prices were very unsatisfactory. The condition of the fruit generally was not good, quite a proportion showing mould on arrival at the markets and soon becoming nesty.

Grapefruit.—Demand was firm for choice lines, but inferior fruit was almost unsaleable. One good brand sold to 16/- for best sizes. A small shipment of Californian Grapefruit arrived and was offered at 37/- per Californian case.

Gooseberries.—Enquiry was not good for this variety, and though supplies were not heavy, values were only fair for good lines, while small berries were practically unsaleable.

Lemons.—Supplies were light, and with a fair demand, values moved up a little, and were firm at the close of the month. Consignments came across from Victoria, but unfortunately a fair proportion arrived in wasty condition. Sound fruit sold readily at round 10/- to 11/- for best sizes. Indications are that the market should improve further. A small shipment of Italian Lemons arrived, and sold at 20/- per 3 bushel case.

Oranges.—Really choice Oranges were scarce, and sold quickly at from 7/- to 10/- for sizes 113 to 138. Supplies of average standard grade were heavy, but enquiry was not good, and sales were slow. Small and inferior fruit could only be moved at very low values.

Mangoes.—Demand for Apple and Strawberry varieties was very firm, and these two varieties sold up to 23/- per case. The Turpentine variety is not popular, and sold slowly from 6/- to 8/-.

Nectarines were not in heavy supply, and with a quiet demand sold at 4/- to 6/- per box.

Passion Fruit.—Supplies of local N.S.W. Passions were very light, and really choice lines sold at high values. Queensland and North Coast Passions were available in quantity, and prices came back as consignments increased, closing at 8/- for best lines down to 3/- for medium sorts.

Papaws were in ample supply. Fruit in good condition sold well at fair values, but inferior was hard to move at low prices.

Peaches.—Demand was good for really choice lines, which sold at satisfactory values. A fair proportion however arrived on the market in only fair condition, and had to be sold at sacrifice rates.

Pineapples.—Supplies fell off as the month advanced, and values moved up. Prices are expected to be high until the summer crop commences.

Plums.—Demand for large Plums suitable for shipping was good, and values for choice lines were satisfactory. Small and inferior fruit was not wanted, and could only be sold at very low rates.

Rock Melons.—Small supplies were available, and sold at good prices up to 18/- per tropical case being obtained. As supplies increased, values will naturally come back.

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NEW SOUTH WALES.

Sydney (28/12/33).—Apples (standard and special line prices), N.S.W., Lord Nelson, Carrington, Mobbs Royal and Christmas Kitchen, 6/- to 12/-; Allsopp's, Twenty Ounce, Grav. and Willie Sharp, 3/- to 8/-; Demo., 6/- to 11/-; Tas. Demo., 5/6 to 9/-; Crofton, 5/6 to 8/6; Sturmer, 4/- to 7/-; Vic. Yates, 4/- to 10/6 bush. case; Apricots, local, 2/- to 3/-, few higher; inland, 3/- to 4/-; special, to 5/- half bush. case; Vic., 4/- to 7/- bush. case; Bananas, N.S.W. and Queensland, 4/- to 17/-; Norfolk Island to 10/- case; Cherries, Orange district, Florence, 2/- to 3/-; Margaret, Republican and Noble, 2/6 to 4/-; few higher; Batlow fruit, 2/- to 3/- quarter bush. case; Citrus fruits (standard and special), Lemons, N.S.W. local, 96 to 150 in case, 5/- to 6/-; 180 to 216, 8/- to 10/-; 234 to 270, 5/- to 7/-; inland, Mangrove and cured, 5/- to 8/-; special to 10/-; Vic., 7/- to 11/- bush. case; Grapefruit, N.S.W. Marsh's Seedless, 11/- to 15/- bush.; Cal'n., 36/- Cal'n. case; Oranges, Vals., standard and special, counts 64 to 88 in case, 5/- to 6/-; 96 to 138, 6/- to 8/-; 150 to 216, 4/6 to 6/-; 234 to 270 and plain grades, 2/- to 4/-; few selected counts when ordered, 7/6 to 9/- bush. case; Figs, 4/- to 6/- half bush. case; Gooseberries, N.S.W., 1/- to 3/-, few higher quarter bush. case; Tasmanian, 2/- to 5/- half bush. case; Mangoes, Queensland Apple and Strawberry varieties, 5/- to 7/- bush. case; Turpentine variety, 5/- to 7/-; Nectarines, N.S.W., 4/- to 6/-; special, to 10/- half bush. case; Passionfruit, N.S.W., 2/6 to 5/-, few to 7/-; Queensland, 2/6 to 4/-, few to 6/- half bush. case; Papaws, Queensland, 5/- to 8/-, few 9/- tropical case; Peaches, N.S.W. local, 3/- to 4/6; few special to 5/-; inland, 3/- to 4/6, few special to 5/6; Victorian, 3/- to 4/6 half bush. case and 4/- to 8/-; M.I.A., 6/- to 10/- bush. case; Pineapples, Queensland, counts 10 to 15 in case, 8/- to 11/-; 18 to 27, 10/- to 12/-, smaller, 9/- to 10/-; Ripleys, 8/- to 11/- trop. case; Plums, 2/- to 3/6, special to 4/6, few shipping and special lines higher per bushel case; inland, Angelina, 5/- to 6/-; Vic. Santa Rosa, 4/- to 7/- bush. case.

VICTORIA.

Melbourne (29/12/33).—Sales of fruits dull. Peaches and ripe Bananas very plentiful, some lines are unsaleable. Quotations (Excepting where otherwise stated, the quotations are at per bushel case):—Apples, eating—Jons., 6/- to 9/-; Del., 6/- to 8/-; R.B., 6/- to 8/-; Statesman, 6/- to 8/-; others from 5/-. Apples, cooking—Five-crowns, 6/- to 7/6; other varieties, 6/- to 7/-; new season's, 4/- to 6/-. Apricots, 2/- to 6/-. Cherries, 4/- to 8/- half-case. Figs, 2/- to 4/- half-case. Papaws, 6/- to 9/- double case. Loquats, 2/- to 4/- half-case. Peaches, 1/- to 4/-. Pears—Dessert, Packhams, 6/- to 10/-; others from 4/-. Plums—Jap., 2/- to 6/-; Black, 3/- to 4/-. Bananas—Q'land green, 6's, 7/- to 8/-; 7's, 9/- to 10/-; 8's and 9's, 11/- to 14/-; ripe, from 4/-; sales slow. Pineapples, 8/- to 12/- double case. Passionfruit, 7/- to 9/- half-case. Tomatoes, local, 3/- to 6/-.

The Melbourne manager of the Federal Citrus Council of Australia (Mr. Kitchin-Kerr) reports comparatively good demand for selected grades of Val. Oranges; Vals. of lower grade very slow of sale. Grapefruit supplies in excess of demand, consignments exceptionally heavy immediately before Christmas. Prices maintained for selected grades of Lemons, but average standards were a little lower. A few Navels and late Commons still arriving, but no firm market for them. Sales:—Vals., average standards to 5/- and 6/-, best counts; selected standard, unwrapped grades, 84 5/-, 96 5/6, 112 6/-, 140-168

8/-, with a few sales to 9/-; 182 7/-, 200 6/-, 248 5/-, smaller from 4/-; specially selected standard, wrapped, counts 96-168 1/- higher to 9/- best counts, with a few sales to 10/-. Grapefruit—Average standards 6/-, best counts 60-75; plains to 6/-; selected standards, unwrapped, best counts 7/-, a few selected standards, wrapped, 9/- and 10/-, best counts, a few specially selected higher. Lemons—Average standards 6/- and 7/-, best counts; selected standards 8/-, a few specially selected standards higher.

The Committee of Direction of Fruit Marketing (Q.) reports the following prices for Queensland produce in Melbourne—Bananas, green, nines and eights, 12/- to 13/- sevens, 10/- to 11/-; sixes, 7/- to 10/- a case, a few higher. Pineapples, 8/- to 11/- case. Papaws, 6/- to 8/- double case, sound lines higher. Passionfruit, 6/- to 8/- half-case. Mangoes, 18/- to 20/- bushel case.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Adelaide (29/12/33).—Apples (eating), 8/- to 9/- case; do. (cooking), 7/- to 8/- case; Apricots, 6/- case; Bananas, 22/- to 24/- crate; Cherries (dark), 10/- to 12/- case; do. (light), 8/- case; Figs, 10/- case; Gooseberries, 7/- case; Lemons, 6/- to 7/- case; Loquats, 8/- case; Oranges (common), 5/- to 6/- case; do. (blood), 6/- case; do. (man-

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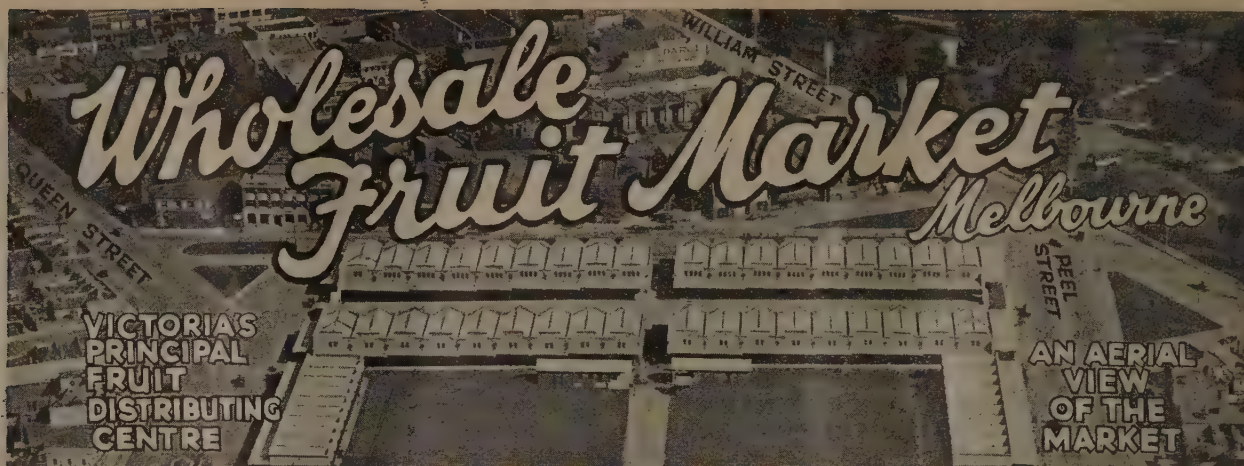
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darin), 8/- case; do. (navel), 7/- to 9/- case; passionfruit, 22/- half-case; Peaches, 6/- to 8/- case; Pears (eating), 5/- case; do. (cooking), 4/- case; Persimmons, 12/- case; Pineapples, 14/- case; Plums (light), 3/- case; do. (dark), 4/- case; do. (Jap.), 6/- case.

QUEENSLAND.

Brisbane (29/12/33).—Local Fruit: Pineapples, smooth leaf, cases 5/-, few to 8/-; rough leaf, 6/- to 8/-; Lemons, 8/- to 12/- case; Mangoes, Northern, 1/- to 6/- case; Papaws, 1/- to 3/-; Special 3/6; Passionfruit, No. 1 quality, 2/- to 3/6; No. 2 quality, 1/-; imported Apples, 7/- to 12/- bushel case; Oranges, Vals., 3/- to 7/-; special, 8/-; Lemons, 5/- to 12/-; Cherries, 4/- to 5/-; Apricots, 2/6 to 6/-; special, 7/- to 8/-; Southern, 2/- to 7/-; Cooking Apples, 5/- to 7/- bush. case; few to 8/-, small 4/-, Eating Apples, 4/- to 6/-; large, 8/-; Peaches, Stanthorpe, small, 1/- to 1/6; medium, 2/- to 3/-; few choice Wiggins, 4/- half-bushel; Plums, Stanthorpe, small, 1/-; medium, 1/6 to 3/-; special large, 4/-; Nectarines, 2/6 to 6/- half-bushel.



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Perth (22/12/33).—Apples, Yates, dumps, 10/- to 15/- (special to 16/-); G. Smith, 12/- to 16/6; Rokewood, 8/- to 10/-; Citrus, Vals., flats, 4/- to 8/- (special to 9/-); dumps, 5/6 to 11/6 (special to 12/9); Lemons, 6/- to 13/- (special to 15/-); Plums, Santa Rosa, 8/- to 15/-; Shiro, 3/- to 7/6; Peaches, 8/- to 15/- (special to 18/6, others from 6/-); Apricots, 7/6 to 13/6 (special to 15/-, others from 4/-); Grapes, 4/- to 7/6 (few specials to 9/6).

NEW ZEALAND.

Dunedin (22/12/33).—Messrs. Reilly's Central Produce Mart Ltd. report as follows:—

An exceptionally busy week—our firm handling 1,245 cases of Nieves and 600 cases of Samoan Bananas for this market. The fruit arrived in perfect condition, and will be ideal for the holidays. The American Oranges are finding a steady sale; grapes are also in demand. Canadian Apples are meeting a better inquiry, and large consignments of Canterbury cool-store Sturmer and Del. have come on to the market. Unfortunately, these have been held rather long, and though the quality is excellent, the demand is not keen. We also had our first consignment of local Apples from Ettrick—cookers. These were not in keen demand, as Sturmers are in excess of requirements.

Some nice consignments of Strawberries have come forward during the week. We have had some particularly choice Cherries. Unfortunately some of the Cherries coming forward, though choice quality, are arriving rather ripe.

Some nice Grapes came forward from Roxburgh, and these found ready buyers.

Prices: — Half-Cases: Cherry Plums, 2/3, 5/-; Nelson Tomatoes, 10/6. Bushel Cases: Apples, Del. 7/- to 10/-; Sturmers, 6/-, 10/6; Lemons, N.Z., 18/-, 20/-; Cal. Navels, 40/-; Cal. Grapefruit, 37/6; Canadian Apples, Jon. and Del., 21/-. American Cases: Grapes, Red Emperors, 24/-; Bananas, Ripes Nieves, 27/6; Samoans, 32/6.

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AN INTERESTING REVIEW of the 1933 export of Australian and New Zealand Apples and Pears to the U.K. and the Continent, is to hand from Messrs. F. W. Moore and Co. Ltd., London. For many years this firm has annually issued similar comprehensive and valuable reports, and the one just to hand (per courtesy of H. Jones and Co. Ltd., Hobart) is well up to the standard of excellence. The various contributing factors to the breakdown of the markets (already dealt with in the "Fruit World") are ably traversed — excess "bountied" Oranges from Spain, the hottest European summer for twenty years (bringing on rapidly the summer fruits), heavy quantities of Australian and New Zealand Apples, and simultaneous arrivals of big cargoes, early Canadian and American arrivals, etc.

The need for restriction of export of Australian and New Zealand Apples is emphasised, elimination of unsuitable varieties and sizes.

While recognising certain improvements in British and world conditions, many cross currents of international finance are operating, particularly the fall of the Ameri-

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under
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In response to numerous requests from growers for information as to who are members of the WHOLESALE FRUIT MERCHANTS' ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA, the following list is given. All are members of the above Association, and are registered firms carrying on business in the

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J. D. FRASER, Secretary, No. 21 Wholesale Fruit Market, Melbourne

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can dollar and Japanese competition against British industries. However, while finding it difficult to forecast marketing conditions when Australasian fruit arrives in 1934, a note of confidence is expressed, especially if the lessons of 1933 be taken to heart, and if growers export in 1934 the general good quality of the fruit sent in 1933.

[Note.—Since the foregoing report was drafted, Australia and New Zealand have agreed to an organised voluntary restriction of export and elimination of unsuitable varieties and sizes. The quality of the fruit appears to be excellent this season.—Ed. "F.W."]

J. O. SIMS' REPORT.

In the 38th annual report to U.S.A. and Canadian Apple-growers issued by Mr. J. O. Sims, Boro Market, London, urges the sending only of sufficient fruit within the British market's absorptive powers. It is a mistake to ship quantities to make the supply greater than the demand. Careful grading and packing are urged. The hope is expressed that the American dollar will be stabilised: the possibility for better prices lies in the lessening of unemployment and increased purchasing power of the masses.

The report was received by courtesy of F. Cave and Co. Ltd., Melbourne. It shows that problems confronting older Apple-producing centres are similar to those facing Australia.

TINNED MANDARINS.

It will come as a surprise to Mandarin growers in Australia to learn that Mandarins packed in tins are being sold on the London market. These tins of quartered Mandarins in juice are packed in Japan, and contain seven ounces of fruit. They sell at sixpence per tin retail in England. As N.S.W. growers of Mandarins find it difficult to dispose of fresh fruit, they might, with profit, turn their attention to tinned Mandarins. A sample of the Japanese product may be seen at the offices of Pitts and Lehman, 129 Pitt-street, Sydney.

Manchester.

One of the World's Greatest Markets.

(By Capt. W. J. Wade.)

When Manchester is referred to most people think of it only as the principal centre of the British cotton industry.

It is apt to be overlooked that it is also one of the foremost British ports, and the economic distributing centre for over 12 million people; lines drawn mid-way between Manchester and the ports of Liverpool, Bristol and London respectively, enclose an area which contain that number of consumers.

The construction of the Manchester Ship Canal and Docks converted this great centre of industry, situated nearly 40 miles inland, into a deepwater port, and the Manchester wholesale markets and imported fruit sale-rooms are the principal clearing houses for imported produce of every description, ranking next to those of London as regards area and volume of business transacted.

This is not surprising when it is remembered that within 50 miles' radius of Manchester, there are over 200 cities and towns, including such important manufacturing centres as Birmingham, Bolton, Blackburn, Bradford, Burnley, Halifax, Huddersfield, Leeds, Oldham, Sheffield, Stoke, and many others. In fact, if the radius is extended to 75 miles around Manchester, i.e., within easy reach by motor haulage or rail, the population inside the circle is greater by over half a million than within a similar distance around London.

What is equally important, Manchester is also the greatest centre of industrial activity in Great Britain, for in addition to its staple trade—cotton—the engineering industry alone employs over 130,000 people in the city and its immediate vicinity, and there is scarcely an industry which is not represented in that area.

The Manchester Royal Exchange is the largest institution of its kind in the world; it was established in 1729,

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and has a membership of over 10,000, nearly all representatives of important firms in the cotton, engineering, chemical trades and transport in the surrounding area. The "floor" covers 8,222 square yards on one level, and at "High 'Change" each week a remarkable sight is presented when some 8,000 traders are simultaneously congregated on it. In addition, the coal and produce trades have separate Exchanges in the city.

Where business of such magnitude is transacted an enormous amount of money necessarily circulates, and in this respect Manchester's banking figures provide a reliable trade barometer and index. The Manchester Bankers' Clearing House returns prove that the city is easily the greatest British centre of banking and finance outside London, and for many years the aggregate amount cleared through the Manchester Banks has greatly exceeded the totals for Bristol, Hull, Newcastle-on-Tyne and Liverpool combined.

To summarise the position. The situation, lay-out and equipment of Manchester Docks ensures efficient and expeditious handling and distribution to an enormous population at the lowest possible cost.

The local markets and salerooms are provided with up-to-date facilities, and serve a population which ensures a constant demand at prices which compare favorably with those realised in other British markets, whilst distribution can be effected to the city and towns in the surrounding area with a minimum of handling and expense.

The population within Manchester's "economic area" consumes enormous quantities of imported produce, including fruit,—a great deal of which, owing to trade custom and usage, has hitherto reached them at considerable expense via other ports. For example, the standard rail-age charges on butter from London to Manchester are 57/4 per ton, and approximately the same for imported meat, and other refrigerated produce, whilst the average

cost of forwarding fruit (via rail or coastal steamer) is 9d. per case,—charges which are necessarily added to the price paid by the consumer and correspondingly restrict the market, or are directly or indirectly debited against the producer.

In dealing with this market of 12 million consumers, provided with all the requisite port and marketing facilities at Manchester to ensure economic and efficient distribution, it is opposed to common sense and logic to ship Australian produce via any other route than to Manchester Docks. In fact, under present economic conditions,—when every penny expended in distributing charges counts,—it is a policy tending to prevent or restrict the development of trade with one of the world's greatest markets.

EXCELLENT RESULTS have so far followed the efforts of the N.S.W. Department of Agriculture and the Fruitgrowers' Federation to combat the fruit fly. Colored posters and leaflets have been issued to growers—commercial and "backyard." Directions are clearly set out. There is a substantial penalty for non-fulfilment.

Best Efforts for Good Returns.

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Fruit Exchange, Brisbane
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Wholesale Fruit Merchants & Growers' Agents

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(Hedley Geeves, Managing Director)

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Harcourt Fruit Supply Co. Ltd.
Victorian Central Citrus Assn. Ltd.

Tasmania: State Fruit Advisory Board.
New South Wales: Griffith Producers' Co-op. Co. Ltd.
Batlow Packing House Co-op. Soc. Ltd.

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